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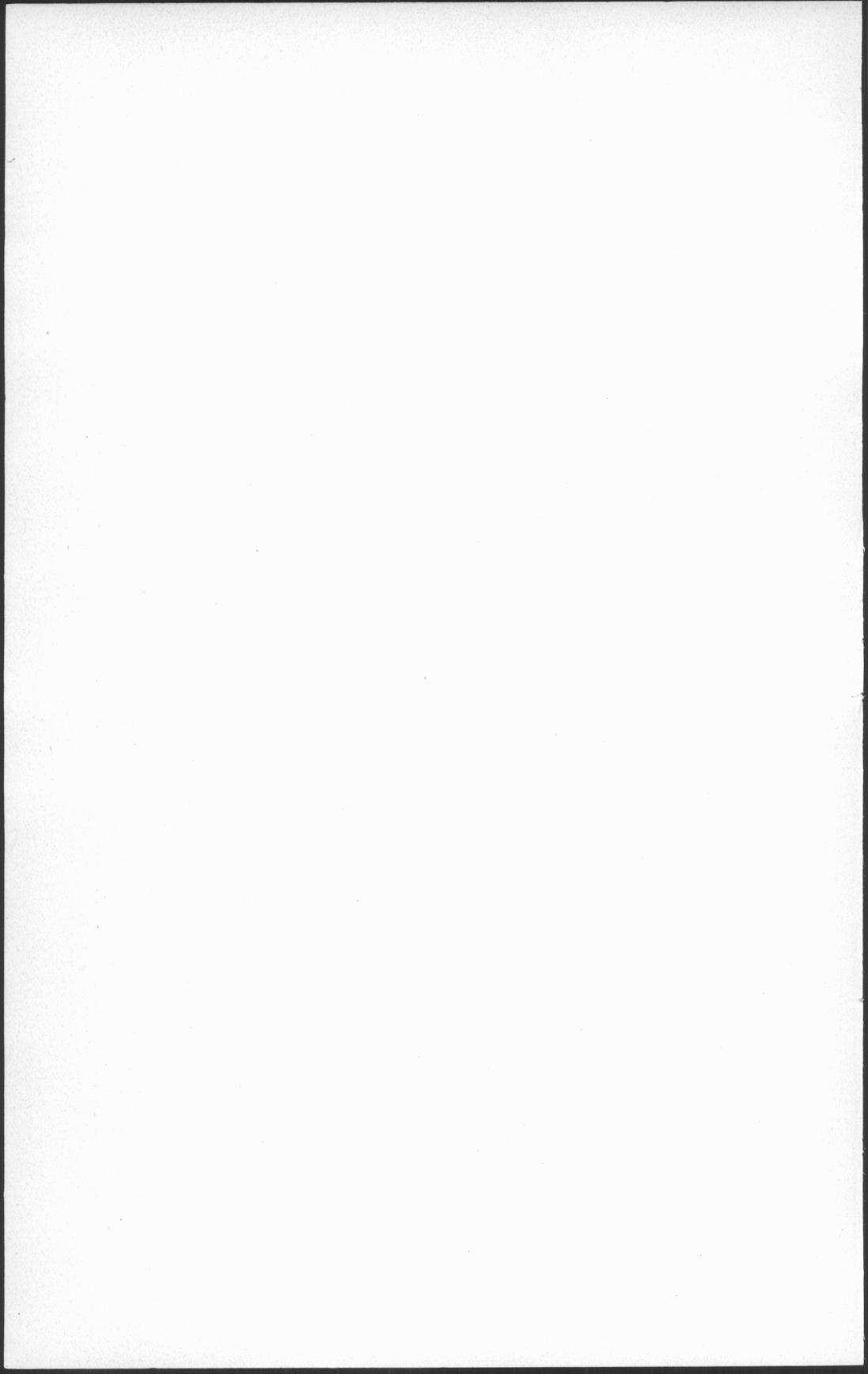
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February, 1914.

(Containing Summarised Figures for Year 1913,  
and Index to Vol. I., Bulletins Nos. 1 to 4.)

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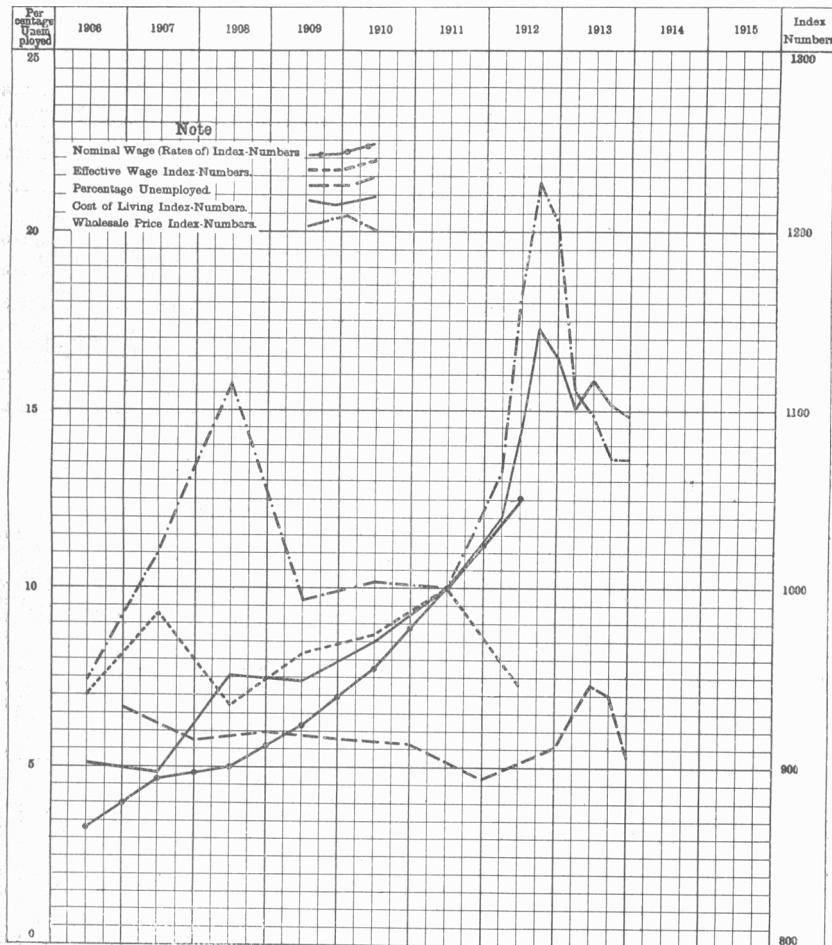
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Cost of Living Wholesale Prices and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers  
and Percentage of Unemployed.



EXPLANATORY NOTE.—The figures on the left represent the scale for the percentage of persons unemployed according to trade union returns. The figures on the right represent the scale for the several index-numbers, the year 1911 being taken in each case as base (= 1000). Since the end of the year 1911 the index-numbers for cost of living (average for the six metropolitan towns), and for wholesale prices (Melbourne) are shewn each quarter, while unemployment percentages are shewn quarterly since the end of the year 1912 only. Unemployment figures for previous years are shewn as at the end of each year, while other index-numbers refer to the average for the whole year. Nominal and effective wage index-numbers are only computed annually.

# LABOUR BULLETIN.

No. 4.—OCTOBER to DECEMBER, 1913.

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## SECTION I.—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

1. **General.**—A review of the reports received as to industrial conditions during the fourth quarter of 1913 indicates that the improvement which took place in the labour market during the third quarter was well maintained during the quarter under review. The returns furnished by trade unions shew that in all the States there was a considerable decrease in the percentage of unemployment. The conditions in South Australia, however, were still unsatisfactory, and the percentage of unemployed was considerably higher than in any other State. It is stated that the dry weather experienced, resulting in the partial failure of the crops in many parts of that State, continues to adversely affect the activity of many industries. The returns for the quarter shew that the decrease in unemployment was greatest in Victoria, and least in Western Australia, while Queensland continued to shew the smallest percentage of unemployed members of trade unions. The aggregate result for the whole Commonwealth is that the percentage of unemployment decreased from 7 per cent. for the three months ended the 30th September last to 5.3 per cent. during the quarter under review. The completion of the results for the last quarter of 1913 enables comparisons to now be made between the whole of that year and preceding years. It should, however, be remembered that the returns for years prior to 1913 relate to the percentage unemployed at the end of the year and do not take into account variations in employment and unemployment throughout the year due to seasonal activity and other causes. The returns collected for each quarter of 1913 shew that these variations were considerable during that year, the percentage of unemployment ranging from 7.3 per cent. in the second quarter to 5.3 per cent. in the fourth quarter.

Any comparisons made between the average for the whole year 1913 and previous years are therefore subject to certain limitations. The percentage unemployed in the fourth quarter of 1913 was 5.3, as compared with 5.5 for the end of the year 1912, and was less than the percentage for the corresponding period of any year for which records are available, except that for the end of the year 1911, when it was 4.7 per cent.

In addition to the usual information and statistical tables published in this Bulletin a special section dealing with the distribution of wages

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*NOTE.—The Labour Bulletin, in its accounts of proceedings, abstracts of reports, legal decisions, quotations and other matters of concern to labour, is not to be regarded as expressing an official endorsement of any of the views or opinions contained therein.*

of female employees in manufacturing industries for the year 1912 is included in the present issue. A similar table dealing with the distribution of wages of male employees was given in the previous issue (see Labour Bulletin, No. 3, pages 213 to 220).

**2. Weather Conditions and Rural Industries.**—During the early part of the quarter the outlook for the rural industries was reported to be unpromising in the mainland States, except Western Australia, but good rains during the latter half of October in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, and during December in Queensland, changed the aspect and caused a considerable improvement in the condition of stock and crops. Generally speaking, the wheat harvest was fair, and there were instances of exceptionally good, as well as of poor, results. Stock, on the whole, was in good condition. Reports from the south-west division of Western Australia were favourable, both as to crops and stock, but stormy weather in December did considerable damage in some districts. In Tasmania, cold weather during October and November retarded the growth of crops, but during December the weather was warmer, though dry, and both stock and crops were reported to be in good condition. In the following paragraphs brief notes are given as to the condition of stock, crops, etc., in the individual States.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—During the latter half of the month of October, good rains were experienced over practically the whole State, the Southern half, Central Tableland, and the North-western Slope specially benefiting. This, following on the rain which fell during August and September, relieved the anxiety of pastoralists and others as to the condition of stock and crops, and gave promise of a satisfactory yield of wheat. The crops in the Riverina especially promised well, and the hay crops on the North-western Plain were better than had been anticipated. The dry weather during November and December proved propitious for harvesting, though some of the early wheat crops were damaged by high winds, and there was much unevenness in the yields. In the Riverina and Central and Southern Tablelands satisfactory results were obtained, oats and hay being exceptionally good, but on the Slopes crops were only medium, and on the North-western Plain, light. On the Central Western Plain heavy cuttings of hay of good quality were garnered. The dry weather of November and December is stated to have adversely affected growing crops of maize in the Coastal districts and many in the Hunter district were cut as failures. The late frosts, dry weather and high winds were responsible for much damage to fruit and vegetable crops on the Tablelands. The appearance of thrip, coupled with the frosts in November, is stated to have caused the fruit yields, especially apples, to be light in the Metropolitan, Northern, and Central Tableland districts, but good yields were expected in the North-western Slope and Southern Tableland. The weather has been suitable for shearing operations, and it is stated that excellent clips have been obtained throughout the pastoral districts. Although pasturage was considerably dried by the winds and heat there was generally sufficient feed to maintain the condition of the stock. In the North Coast district, however, stock was being removed in search of feed. In the Hunter and all coastal districts the dry weather resulted in a considerable decrease in the milk

supply. Many bush fires were reported in the Riverina and Central Western Slope, with consequent destruction of large areas of grass. Towards the end of December, patchy rains, chiefly the result of thunderstorms, somewhat relieved the situation, but good general rains are said to be still badly needed.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—The weather conditions for the quarter under review are generally reported to have been all that could be desired. The rain which fell during the latter half of October, following a similar fall in September, amply remedied the winter deficiencies and ensured good prospects for the crops. The only district in which this is not true is stated to be the farming area about Mildura and Irymple. Many of the crops in that district are said to have been a failure and used for feeding purposes. In the Lake Hindmarsh and Lorquin district over 3000 acres of crop were destroyed by a hailstorm which occurred on the 27th and 28th of October, involving losses which, it is alleged, approximated £10,000. In the Northern district there was abundance of feed and water for stock, but the presence of "Rust" caused the wheat crop to be disappointing. The barley crop, however, promised well. In the Goulburn Valley also "rust" did considerable damage, some of the crops yielding only from 3 to 9 bushels per acre. In all other parts of the State the yield of wheat is said to have been good. The rains which fell about the 23rd December are stated to have saved from ruin large crops of potatoes, peas, maize, mangels, etc. The conditions in Gippsland are also reported to have been satisfactory. Good crops of cereals were obtained, and the growth of grass and lucerne is luxuriant. The dairy herds are giving good returns, and onion and potato crops promise to be excellent. Shearing in all parts of the State is completed and a good wool clip has been realised and sold at satisfactory prices. Lambs suitable for the export trade were available in considerable numbers. The weather report for the year states that the average temperature has been higher and the rainfall less than normal.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—During October and November little rain fell, and stock on the pasturing areas of the State suffered considerably from want of grass and water, particularly in the Western, Central, and Northern districts. It is reported that the timely and beneficial rains which fell in December throughout the State resulted in a rapid growth of grass during the latter part of that month, and is stated to have saved the pastoralists from severe losses. Stock is everywhere reported to be improving and regaining condition. In the North-western, South-western, and South-eastern corners of the State the rain was of a lighter character than in the other parts, and more rain is urgently needed in these districts. The wheat crops are stated to have given fair yields in the Darling Downs and Southern districts, but to have been poor and patchy in other districts. Most of the early maize crops on the South Coastal district are said to have been a failure. In all parts green feed is abundant, but at the end of the year it was reported that more rain was urgently required.

(iv.) *South Australia*.—During October heavy and general monsoonal rainstorms occurred and relieved to some extent the serious situation obtaining during September. Though the agricultural pro-

spects were improved generally, in the further inland parts of the Upper North the outlook still remained unsatisfactory, and some districts reported that there would be no crops and very little pasturage. In the Lower Northern districts the wheat crops were stated to be fair to poor, and in the Central and Murray Valley districts fair to good. The prevalence of "Rust" in these districts has, however, seriously affected the yields. The pastoral outlook is stated to be good in all parts of the State, with the exception of the Upper Northern district. Feed was generally plentiful and stock in good condition. A satisfactory yield of fruit is anticipated in all the fruit-growing areas, with the exception of Nairne, where the apples are said to be spotted, and at Crower, in the South-east, where the dry winds damaged the fruit. In the Metropolitan district the extreme dryness of June, July, and August had a serious effect on the reservoirs; at the end of the year it was reported that, unless good falls occurred in the immediate future, a scarcity of water appeared inevitable.

(v.) *Western Australia*.—The weather conditions throughout this State during the quarter under review have generally been favourable both for crops and stock. General rains in the early part of the quarter succeeded by spells of warm weather caused a heavy growth in crops and pasturage. The weather during December is stated to have been unseasonable, alternating between cold and warm spells, and characterised by two stormy periods, one at the beginning and the other towards the end of the month. Crops, however, were practically all harvested by the end of the month, and the yields were generally in excess of estimations. In the Central South district the storm at the beginning of the month did considerable damage to crops, pastures, and outbuildings. Stock is reported to be in good condition, and as an abundant supply of water and pasturage is assured for some time, the outlook is satisfactory. Good shearing returns are reported, and the potato crops are in good condition. It is stated that in some districts the fruit yield will be diminished owing to the damage done by the strong winds prevalent during the middle of December.

(vi.) *Tasmania*.—The yearly review of the rainfall shews that 1913 has been comparatively dry. In one district only, the West Coast, was the average above normal. In other parts it was from 28 to 12 per cent. below normal. The early part of the fourth quarter of the year was characterised by cold weather. During October and November frost, hail, and snow are reported to have wrought considerable damage to potato and fruit crops. The weather during December was, however, dry, the rainfall being below the average. Crops are, on the whole, reported to have been in good condition, though retarded somewhat by the cold weather of the early part of the quarter. The fruit crop is said to have yielded fairly good and the potato crop to be promising. Pasturage in all parts, except the Central Plateau and North-eastern districts, is reported to be plentiful and the water supply abundant.

**3. Variations in Prices and Cost of Living.**—The completion of the results for the last quarter of the year 1913 of the investigations into cost of living enables comparisons to be made between the whole of that year and preceding years. In 1912 there was a phenomenal rise in the cost of living, amounting to no less than 10 per cent., but

the final figures for the whole of the year 1913 shew that this upward movement has ceased, the average level of the cost-of-living index-number for 30 towns in the Commonwealth during 1913 being precisely the same as in 1912. The fortuitous identity in these results is, of course, remarkable. While prices of groceries and food were nearly 3 per cent. lower in 1913 than in 1912, house-rents were nearly 5 per cent. higher, with the result that on the average for the two years respectively, the combined cost-of-living index-number remained stationary. During the last quarter of 1913 the cost-of-living index-number for 30 of the more important towns in the Commonwealth decreased to 992 compared with 998 in the preceding quarter, and 1027 during the last quarter of 1912. The decrease during the last quarter of 1913 was due to a fall in the price of groceries, dairy produce, and meat. House rents shewed a further increase of less than 1 per cent.

**4. Wholesale Prices.**—The general level of wholesale prices shews no change compared with the preceding quarter, the index-number remaining the same (1072) for the fourth quarter as for the third quarter of 1913. The results for the whole of the year shew that the large increase which occurred in 1912 in wholesale as well as retail prices, was converted into a decrease during 1913. The wholesale price index-number in 1912 was as much as 17 per cent. higher than that for 1911, whereas the index-number for 1913 was 1088, or nearly 8 per cent. lower than that for 1912. It was pointed out in Report No. 1, p. 73, that fluctuations in prices are generally more violent and more frequent in the case of wholesale than of retail prices. A comparison of the course of the two index-numbers for the years 1912 and 1913 shews that this conclusion has been confirmed during the last two years. During 1912 wholesale prices advanced 17 per cent., while the cost-of-living index-number advanced only 10 per cent. And again during 1913 wholesale prices decreased 7 per cent. while cost-of-living index-number remained stationary. The net result is that, in spite of the more violent fluctuations in the case of wholesale prices during 1912 and 1913 the degree of divergence of the two index-numbers for the whole of the latter year (1913) from their respective average levels in 1911 is not dissimilar. Thus comparing 1913 with 1911 there is an advance of 8.8 per cent. in the case of the wholesale prices index-number, and of 10.4 per cent. in the case of the cost-of-living index-number. During the quarter under review wholesale prices declined in the Agricultural Produce Group. They remained stationary in the Metal and Coal and Groceries and Tobacco Groups, and advanced in the remaining groups.

**5. Industrial Disputes.**—The total number of disputes which began during the quarter under review was 60, the same as in the preceding quarter. Of this number 39 occurred in New South Wales. At the end of the preceding quarter there were seven disputes unsettled. In the new disputes 6004 persons were directly, and 2542 indirectly, involved, giving a total of 8546. The total number of days lost in both new and old disputes was 92,893, and the estimated loss in wages £43,043. It will be seen that the loss in wages during the quarter under review was less than that during any of the preceding quarters of 1913. The principal disputes occurring during the quarter were the slaughtermen's strikes in New South Wales and Victoria. The

strike of wheelers at the State Coal Mine in Victoria affected the largest number of persons, but was of short duration. Summarised results are given in Section V. hereof for the whole of the year 1913, the first for which these records have been maintained. The total number of disputes for the year was 208, the number of workpeople involved 50,283, the number of working days lost 622,535, and the total estimated loss in wages £288,101. Nearly 70 per cent. of the disputes occurred in New South Wales. Results will be published at an early date shewing in classified form the causes, methods of settlement, and results of disputes.

**6. Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The total number of changes (all of which were increases in rates of wages) recorded during the year was 319, under which 163,132 persons benefited. The aggregate amount of the weekly increase in the wages bills, on the assumption that the average numbers of persons ordinarily engaged in each particular industry, trade, or occupation are all employed during a particular week, is £36,875 for all persons. This gives an average increase of 4s. 6d. per head per employee affected. The number of changes reported during the quarter was 131, of which 56 occurred in New South Wales and 32 in Victoria. The total number of persons affected was 43,342, and the aggregate amount of increase in wages per week was £10,188, or 4s. 10d. per head per week. The largest number of persons affected in any single industrial group was in Group. IX. (Railway and Tramway Services), in which 12,657 persons obtained increases aggregating £1719 per week.

**7. Miscellaneous.**—During the quarter 9565 assisted and nominated immigrants, comprising 4962 dependants, arrived in the Commonwealth, compared with 7016 during the preceding quarter. The greatest number (3272) is reported from Victoria. As regards occupations, of the males no fewer than 1613 are classified in the agricultural, pastoral, etc., group, and of the females 1075 are domestic servants. It will be seen from the particulars given in Section VII. of this Bulletin that the total number of assisted and nominated immigrants arriving during 1913 was 37,445. This total is nearly 20 per cent. less than the number for 1912, and 7 per cent. less than that for 1911.

The State Government free employment bureaux report that during the quarter 20,696 registrations were received from persons seeking employment. During the same period 12,001 applications were received from employers and 9799 positions filled. In New South Wales and Queensland the positions open were greater than the number of applicants for employment. During the year 1913, 83,876 registrations were received from persons seeking employment and 40,172 applications from employers. The total number of positions filled was 35,312.

The number of fatal accidents reported during the quarter (exclusive of Western Australia, for which State returns are not available) was 35, and of other accidents causing incapacitation from work for over 14 days was 1151. The corresponding figures for the preceding quarter (omitting Western Australia) were 42 and 1192 respectively. The industry in which most of these accidents occurred was the mining. The total number of fatal accidents recorded during the year (excluding those which occurred in Western Australia during the last quarter of the year) was 181, and of non-fatal accidents 4784.

## SECTION II.—UNEMPLOYMENT.

1. **General.**—Returns as to unemployment during the quarter ending 31st December, 1913, were received from 465 trade unions, having a membership of 251,207. The number unemployed was 13,430, or 5.3 per cent., compared with 7 per cent. for the preceding quarter (July to September), 7.3 per cent. for the second quarter of 1913, 6.4 per cent. for the first quarter of 1913, and 5.5 per cent. for the end of 1912. It has been pointed out in the previous issues of this Bulletin, that the percentages of unemployment for years prior to 1913 refer to the end of the year only, and not to intermediate quarters, when the percentages may have been greater, especially during the winter months, than those recorded at the end of the year. The following table shews the number of unions reporting, their membership, and the number and percentage unemployed. The returns do not include persons out of work through strikes or lock-outs:—

**UNEMPLOYMENT.**—Number of Unions and Members Reporting, and Number and Percentage Unemployed, 1906 to 1913.

Particulars.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913. 1st Qtr.	1913. 2nd Qtr.	1913. 3rd Qtr.	1913. 4th Qtr.
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## Number of Unions Reporting.

Unions ..	47	51	68	84	109	160	464	451	458	472	465
Members ..	11,299	13,179	18,685	21,122	32,995	67,961	224,023	237,216	243,523	252,325	251,207

## Unemployed.

Number ..	753	757	1,117	1,223	1,857	3,171	12,441	15,234†	17,854†	17,695†	13,430†
Percentage ..	6.7	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.6	4.7	5.5	6.4	7.3	7.0	5.3

\* Returns collected on different basis to previous years. † See remarks below as to average for whole year.

It may be seen that the average percentage for the year 1913 (that is, the mean of the four quarters) is 6.5 per cent. As the year 1913 was the first for which returns were collected each quarter, no comparisons can be made with previous years as to average unemployment or seasonal variations from year to year. The percentages for years prior to 1913 refer to the end of the year only, so that any comparison made for 1913 and previous years must necessarily be between the percentage given for the last quarter of the year 1913, and not the average for the whole year.

The above figures shew that there was a decline in unemployment from 1906 to 1911, the latter year having the lowest percentage recorded in the returns collected by this Bureau. The percentage increased from 4.7 at the end of 1911 to 7.3 for the second quarter of 1913, but decreased 0.3 per cent. during the third quarter and a further 1.7 per cent. during the fourth quarter of 1913. The significance of these figures may be better appreciated by reference to the graph on page 238 hereinbefore. During the quarter under review

the percentage of members of trade-unions unemployed decreased in all industrial classes except Group VI. (Other Manufacturing), and Group VIII. (Mining). In each of the States the aggregate result for all industries shews a decrease in the percentage of unemployment.

**2. Unemployment in Different Industries.**—The following table shews the percentages unemployed in several of the fourteen industrial groups. Information as to classification of these groups is given in Report No. 2, page 6. It may be observed that for those industries in which unemployment is either unusually stable, or on the other hand, exceptionally casual, information as to unemployment cannot ordinarily be obtained from trade unions. Hence, certain industries such as railways, shipping, agricultural, pastoral, etc., and domestic, hotels, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns. Particulars are not, therefore, shewn separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous."

**Unemployment in different Industries for the Quarter ending 31st December, 1913, and Comparison with Preceding Quarter.**

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.		Percentage Unemployed in preceding Quarter.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage since preceding Quarter.
	Unions	Members.	Number.	Per-cent-age.		
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	19	19,450	709	3.6	6.2	—2.6
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	56	32,778	2,318	7.1	8.2	—1.1
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	59	19,208	1,083	5.6	9.0	—3.4
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	23	15,795	281	1.8	8.2	—6.4
V. Books, Printing, etc.	27	8,458	210	2.5	3.5	—1.0
VI. Other Manufacturing	66	19,640	1,270	6.5	5.3	+1.2
VII. Building	58	26,384	1,020	3.9	9.1	—5.2
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	25	35,707	3,141	8.8	8.2	+0.6
X. Other Land Transport	15	14,320	298	2.1	2.3	—0.2
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV. Other and Miscellaneous	117	59,467	3,100	5.2	6.4	—1.2
All Groups	465	251,207	13,430	5.3	7.0	—1.7

The decrease in unemployment, which is common to all groups except Group VI. (Other Manufacturing) and Group VIII. (Mining, &c.), is greatest in Group IV. (Clothing, Hats, Boots, &c.), followed in the order named by Group VII. (Building), Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.), Group I. (Wood, Furniture, &c.), the last Group (Other and Miscellaneous), Group II. (Engineering, &c.), and Group V. (Books, Printing, &c.). The increase of unemployment in Group VI. (Other Manufacturing) is attributable to increases in New South Wales and Queensland, the other States shewing a decrease. In New South Wales, tanners and leather workers, glass workers, wickerworkers, shipwrights and those engaged in the kerosene oil industry are all stated to have experienced a period of unsatisfactory labour conditions, while in Queensland the increase in unemployment in that group is alleged

to be due to lack of employment in the leather trades and among shipwrights. In Group VIII. all the States, with the exception of Victoria and South Australia, shew a decrease in unemployment. It is stated that in Victoria the unprofitable returns which are being received from certain of the mines on the Ballarat field have resulted in a cessation of operations in some cases and a reduction in the number of men employed in others. In the Moonta and Wallaroo district of South Australia the high percentage of men unemployed is said to be due to the fact that only a limited amount of work is being done on account of the completion of contracts and the absence of new business. The labour market at Port Pirie is stated to be in an unsatisfactory state, many men being unable to obtain employment. The increase of unemployment for these two States has resulted in a small increase in the aggregate result for Group VIII. for the whole Commonwealth. The decrease in the percentage of unemployment in Group IV. (Clothing, &c.), Group VII. (Building), Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.), and Group I. (Wood, Furniture, &c.) is general in all the States, and is stated to be due to an all-round improvement in the condition of the labour market.

**3. Unemployment in Different States for Quarter ending 31st December, 1913.**—Of the 465 organisations reporting unemployment, the largest number (127 unions with 105,836 members) was in New South Wales, Victoria with 109 unions and 80,122 members coming next. As pointed out in the previous issue of this Bulletin, the industrial occupations of the people, as well as the extent to which the different industries are represented in the returns, vary considerably in the several States. All comparisons, therefore, that can be drawn between the results for the several States are subject to the qualification that the figures relate not only to different States, but also to some extent to different industries.

In the following table particulars are given for the quarter ended 31st December last, as to the number and percentage unemployed, and the increase or decrease since the preceding quarter in each State:—

**Unemployment in different States for Quarter ending 31st December, 1913, and Comparison with Preceding Quarter.**

STATES, ETC.	QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.				Per-cent-age Unem-ployed in pre-ceding Quarter.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), in per-cent-age since pre-ceding Quarter.		
	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.					
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Per-cent-age.				
New South Wales	127	105,836	4,794	4.5	5.6	— 1.1		
Victoria ..	109	80,122	4,679	5.8	8.3	— 2.5		
Queensland ..	50	14,228	624	4.4	5.1	— 0.7		
South Australia	64	23,114	2,020	8.7	10.4	— 1.7		
Western Aust. ..	76	21,759	1,014	4.7	7.1	— 2.4		
Tasmania ..	39	6,148	299	4.9	6.6	— 1.7		
Commonwealth	465	251,207	13,430	5.3	7.0	— 1.7		

The above figures shew a decrease in the percentage of unemployment in all the States. The decrease is greatest in Victoria (2.5 per cent.), followed in the order named by Western Australia (2.4 per cent.), South Australia and Tasmania (1.7 per cent.), New South Wales (1.1 per cent.), and Queensland (0.7 per cent.). The percentage of unemployment for the quarter under review is greatest in South Australia, and least in Queensland. In New South Wales, Western Australia, and Tasmania the percentages are very nearly equal, Victoria being nearly 1 per cent. higher than the three latter States. The comparatively high percentage of unemployment in South Australia is stated to be due mainly to the bad season and the partial failure of the harvest. There has, however, been a decrease in unemployment in this State, compared with the preceding quarter, in all industries except mining.

**4. Causes of Unemployment.**—Particulars as to causes of unemployment, classified under three main heads, are available for the third quarter of the current year for 461 unions, having a membership of 243,378. The following table shews that of a total number of 12,474 out of work, 9436 were unemployed through lack of work, 2256 through sickness and accident, and 782 through other causes (except persons on strike or lock-out):—

**Unemployment according to Causes for the various Industries, States, and Commonwealth, Quarter ending 31st December, 1913.**

PARTICULARS.	Mem bers.	Lack of Work.		Sickness and Accident.		Other Causes.		TOTAL.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.									
I.—Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	19,450	461	2.3	180	1.0	68	0.3	709	3.6
II.—Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	29,588	1,199	4.1	250	0.8	219	0.7	1,668	5.6
III.—Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	19,208	860	4.5	142	0.7	81	0.4	1,083	5.6
IV.—Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	15,795	211	1.3	67	0.4	3	0.1	281	1.8
V.—Books, Printing, etc. ..	8,458	169	2.0	30	0.4	11	0.1	210	2.5
VI.—Other Manufacturing ..	19,640	1,012	5.2	211	1.1	47	0.2	1,270	6.5
VII.—Building ..	26,384	794	3.0	170	0.7	56	0.2	1,020	3.9
VIII.—Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	35,707	2,122	5.9	924	2.6	95	0.3	3,141	8.8
X.—Other Land Transport ..	14,320	221	1.6	77	0.5	..	..	298	2.1
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV.—Other and Miscellaneous ..	54,828	2,387	4.4	205	0.4	202	0.3	2,794	5.1
ALL GROUPS .. .. ..	243,378	9,436	3.9	2,256	0.9	782	0.3	12,474	5.1
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO STATES.									
New South Wales .. .. ..	102,146	2,761	2.7	930	0.9	398	0.4	4,089	4.0
Victoria .. .. ..	75,983	3,554	4.7	666	0.9	209	0.2	4,429	5.8
Queensland .. .. ..	14,223	450	3.2	139	1.0	34	0.2	623	4.4
South Australia .. .. ..	23,114	1,779	7.7	197	0.8	44	0.2	2,020	8.7
Western Australia .. .. ..	21,759	651	3.0	272	1.3	91	0.4	1,014	4.7
Tasmania .. .. ..	6,148	241	4.0	52	0.8	6	0.1	299	4.9
COMMONWEALTH .. .. ..	243,378	9,436	3.9	2,256	0.9	782	0.3	12,474	5.1

The first part of the above table shews the number unemployed for the causes given, classified according to industries, the second, classified according to States.

It will be observed that for the whole Commonwealth the percentage of unemployed through lack of work fell from 5.3 in the third quarter of 1913 to 3.9 in the quarter under review. The corresponding percentages for the first and second quarters of 1913 being 5.2 and 6.2 respectively. The percentage unemployed through sickness and accident was 0.9, as against 1.1 for the preceding quarter and 0.8 for both the first and second quarters of 1913. The percentage unemployed through other causes was 0.3 (the same as recorded for the second and third quarters), as against 0.2 in the first quarter of 1913; 76.6 per cent. of the total amount of unemployment was due to "Lack of Work," 17.4 per cent. to "Sickness and Accident," and 6 per cent. to other causes. The industries shewing the greatest percentage of unemployment through lack of work are Group VIII. (Mining), Group VI. (Other Manufacturing), and Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.), while the industry shewing the least percentage is Group IV. (Clothing, &c.). It may be observed that the percentage unemployed through lack of work has fallen in Group IV. (Clothing, &c.) from 6.9 per cent. for the preceding quarter to 1.3 per cent. for the quarter under review, in Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.) from 8.1 per cent. to 4.5 per cent., and in Group VII. (Building) from 8.3 per cent. to 3 per cent. during the same period. South Australia has the greatest percentage of unemployment through lack of work, and New South Wales the least, while the decrease in unemployment through that cause during the quarter under review was most marked in Victoria and Western Australia. As in the preceding quarters of the year, Western Australia again shews the greatest percentage of unemployment through sickness and accident. It was pointed out in previous issues of this Bulletin that this excess in Western Australia is probably due to the fact that the proportion of the persons included in the returns and engaged in mining pursuits is greater in Western Australia than in the other States. Group VIII. (Mining) again shews by far the greatest proportion of unemployment through sickness and accident, the percentage being nearly three times as great as the average of all industries.

### SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND COST OF LIVING.

**1. General.**—During the last three months of the year 1913 the cost-of-living index-number for the thirty towns for which particulars are collected shewed a further slight *decrease* since the preceding quarter from 998 to 991, the index-number for the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1912 being 1027. The completion of the figures for the last quarter enables results to be given for the whole of the year 1913, and summarised figures for that year are accordingly included in several of the tables given in this section. The following table will serve to furnish general comparisons for the whole thirty towns between the years 1912 and 1913:—

**Cost of Living.—Average for Thirty Towns.—Comparisons between 1912 and 1913.**

Par-ticulars.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.
1912 ..	947	988	1,037	1,027	1,000*
1913 ..	998	1,012	998	992	1,000

\* Basis of Table.

The decrease in cost of living during the current quarter, compared with the preceding quarter, is common to all the States except Queensland, the increase in that State being due to a relatively substantial increase in house rents in Brisbane. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912 the cost-of-living index-number is *lower* in all the States.

In the previous issue (No. 3) of this Bulletin attention was drawn to the fact that the phenomenal increase in cost of living, which occurred during the latter part of the year 1912, was not being maintained during 1913, and the complete results now shew that there was, in fact, no increase on the average for the whole of the latter year, the index-number being precisely the same (1000) as for the preceding year. The figures in the above table shew that during the first half of 1913 cost of living was higher than during the corresponding period of 1912, but was lower during the second half of the year. The index-number for groceries and food for 1913 is nearly 3 per cent. lower than that for 1912, but house rents, on the other hand, are nearly 5 per cent. higher, the combined cost-of-living index-number being, as already stated, the same for each of the two years. The fortuitous identity of the two results is, of course, remarkable.

Particulars of the cost-of-living index-numbers in each State during the last quarter, compared with the quarter immediately preceding, and also with the corresponding quarter of 1912, are shewn in the

following table. The figures relate to the average cost in five of the more important towns (see paragraph 3) in each State, and are computed with average prices for the whole of the year 1912 as base (=1000). Corresponding figures are given for the whole of the year 1913:—

Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth,†  
October to December, 1913.

Index-Numbers.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Average for Year 1912	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
For " " 1913	1,027	991	978	974	972	995	1,000
For Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1912	1,041	1,031	1,002	1,008	989	1,054	1,027
July " Sept. 1913	1,025	991	974	970	967	998	998
Oct. " Dec., 1913	1,023	980	981	950	965	982	992

† Weighted average in each State for the five towns specified in paragraph 3 hereinafter. It is proper to observe that these index-numbers are not fully comparable with those given in Reports Nos. 1 and 2 in regard to variations from year to year in cost of living, since the latter index-numbers refer to the capital towns only and were taken with the year 1911 as base (= 1000). Particulars for all the thirty towns were not available for years prior to 1912, and in this table the year 1912 has, accordingly, been taken as base (= 1000). Particulars fully comparable with those given in Reports Nos. 1 and 2 for the capital towns only may be found in paragraph 5 hereof.

**2. Variations in Retail Prices and House Rent Index - numbers, 1912 and 1913.**—The table in the preceding paragraph shews the aggregate effect (on the cost-of-living index-numbers for each State) of variations in prices of commodities and house-rent. These commodities are divided into three groups, and the table below shews the index-numbers for each group and house-rent separately, compared with the preceding quarter of 1913, the corresponding quarter of 1912, and with the average for the whole year 1912. Groups I., II., and III. each shew a decrease compared with the immediately preceding quarter—2.2 per cent. for Groceries, 1.2 per cent. for Dairy Produce, and 1.7 per cent. for Meat. Group IV. (House Rents) shews an increase of nearly 1 per cent.

The price levels for the fourth quarter of 1913 for Groceries, Dairy Produce and Meat are all lower than during the corresponding quarter of 1912:—Groceries, 15 per cent.; Dairy Produce, 0.5 per cent.; and Meat, 3 per cent. House Rents, on the other hand, are 4 per cent. higher.

The index-numbers for the whole year 1913, compared with 1912, shew a decrease in the case of Group I. (Groceries) of 7.2 per cent., and in Group II. (Dairy Produce) of 3 per cent. Group III (Meat) shews an increase of 4.2 per cent., and Group IV. (House Rents) of 4.8 per cent.

The following table shews the index-numbers in each State for the fourth quarter (October to December) of 1913 compared with those for the quarter immediately preceding (July to September), and with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year (October to December, 1912). The index-numbers shew the weighted average results for five towns in each State, average prices and rents during the whole of the year 1912 being taken as base (= 1000). Figures are also given for the whole of the year 1913.

**Cost of Living in Australia.—Index-Numbers for each Group, October to December, 1913, with Year 1912 as Base (= 1000).**

Index-Numbers.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
<b>I.—GROCERIES.</b>							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
," 1913 ..	<b>960</b>	<b>902</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>928</b>
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1912	1,065	1,068	1,045	1,070	1,004	1,102	1,061
July , Sept., 1913	954	898	914	906	911	905	922
Oct. , Dec., 1913	<b>935</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>902</b>
<b>II.—DAIRY PRODUCE.</b>							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
," 1913 ..	<b>999</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>970</b>
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1912	968	930	930	938	965	951	948
July , Sept., 1913	985	918	945	959	942	1,022	954
Oct. , Dec., 1913	<b>978</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>943</b>
<b>III.—MEAT.</b>							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
," 1913 ..	<b>1,090</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>1,064</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>1,042</b>
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1912	1,098	1,093	1,002	1,028	946	1,133	1,067
July , Sept., 1913	1,098	1,032	990	1,092	980	1,052	1,052
Oct. , Dec., 1913	<b>1,070</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>1,034</b>
<b>IV.—HOUSE RENTS</b>							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
," 1913 ..	<b>1,059</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>1,048</b>
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1912	1,032	1,023	996	989	1,021	1,013	1,020
July , Sept., 1913	1,061	1,071	1,045	971	1,029	1,040	1,051
Oct. , Dec., 1913	<b>1,082</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,061</b>

(i.) *Groceries.*—During the fourth quarter of 1913 there was a decrease in the index-number for this group in all the States except Queensland, where prices remained practically the same as in the preceding quarter. The decrease is due mainly to a fall in the prices of Potatoes in New South Wales, Western Australia, and Tasmania, and both Bread and Potatoes in Victoria and South Australia. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912, prices are lower in all the States, the decrease ranging from 12 per cent. in Queensland to 19 per cent. in Victoria.

(ii.) *Dairy Produce.*—Index-numbers for this group are lower in all the States except Victoria, where there is no change. There has been

a decline in the price of butter, cheese, and eggs, and an increase in the price of bacon and ham in all the States. Tasmania shews the greatest decline in this group, due to a reduction in the price of milk. In Victoria the decrease in price of eggs, butter, and cheese is balanced by the increased cost of bacon and ham.

Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912 prices are slightly lower in all the States, the average decline being about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

(iii.) *Meat*.—The index-numbers for this group shew a decline when compared with the preceding quarter of 1913 in all the States except Tasmania, and when compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912, in all the States except Western Australia.

(iv.) *House Rents*.—A further slight increase in rents occurred during the quarter under review. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912 the average increase amounts to 4 per cent. The increase is greatest in Victoria, amounting to over 5 per cent. This increase is common to all the States except South Australia. In that State there has been a further fall in house rents, which are now nearly 4.5 per cent. lower than for the corresponding quarter of 1912. The conditions as to house rents in Adelaide reported in the previous issue of this Bulletin have continued during the current quarter, the index-number having further decreased from 971 to 955.

**3. Variations in Cost of Living in each of Thirty Towns, Oct. to December, 1913, Compared with Previous Year.**—The cost-of-living index-numbers in the third quarter of 1913 for each of the thirty towns included in the inquiry are given in the following table. The first column shews the base index-numbers (= 1000) for expenditure based on average prices and house-rent during the whole of the year 1912. The second column gives the index-numbers for the fourth quarter of 1912, the third and fourth columns the index-numbers for the third and fourth quarters, respectively, of 1913, while the fifth column shews the average index-number for the whole of the year 1913. The index-numbers are lower than in the preceding quarter in all the towns except Broken Hill, Bathurst, Brisbane, Rockhampton, and Perth. The increase in the price of milk in Broken Hill, rent in Bathurst, Brisbane and Perth, and meat and potatoes in Rockhampton has been greater than the decrease in other commodities.

The aggregate result for all thirty towns shews a decrease of 0.7 per cent. on the preceding quarter (July to September, 1913), and 3.5 per cent. on the corresponding quarter of 1912 (October to December).

In the five towns of New South Wales the cost-of-living index-numbers for the year 1913 are from 2.6 to 4.3 per cent. higher than in 1912, but in Victoria and Queensland they are lower. The decrease in the Victorian towns ranges from 0.1 to 5.4 per cent., and in Queensland towns from 1.1 to 7.6 per cent. In South Australia the index-number has increased 1 per cent. in Petersburg, and decreased 3 per cent. in Adelaide; in Western Australia there is an increase of 0.4 per cent. in Geraldton, and a decrease of 4.9 per cent. in Kalgoorlie, while in Tasmania there is an increase of 1 per cent. in Hobart, and a decrease of 2.8 per cent. in Launceston. Other towns in South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania range within the increase and decrease specified above for each State, respectively.

## Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers (Groceries, Food and House Rent), for each of Thirty Towns, 1912 and 1913, with Average for Year 1912 as Base (= 1000).

Particulars.	1912.		1913.		
	Base for Whole Year (= 1000).	Fourth Quarter (Oct. to Dec.)	Third Quarter (July to Sept.)	Fourth Quarter. (Oct. to Dec.)	Average for whole Year.
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>					
Sydney . . . . .	1,000	1,039	1,024	<b>1,022</b>	<b>1,026</b>
Newcastle . . . . .	1,000	1,047	1,034	<b>1,022</b>	<b>1,032</b>
Broken Hill . . . . .	1,000	1,056	1,023	<b>1,029</b>	<b>1,027</b>
Goulburn . . . . .	1,000	1,078	1,030	<b>1,025</b>	<b>1,043</b>
Bathurst . . . . .	1,000	1,050	1,038	<b>1,040</b>	<b>1,034</b>
<b>*Weighted Average . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,041</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>1,027</b>
<b>VICTORIA—</b>					
Melbourne . . . . .	1,000	1,029	998	<b>988</b>	<b>996</b>
Ballarat . . . . .	1,000	1,042	937	<b>925</b>	<b>946</b>
Bendigo . . . . .	1,000	1,045	960	<b>937</b>	<b>972</b>
Geelong . . . . .	1,000	1,040	966	<b>951</b>	<b>975</b>
Warrnambool . . . . .	1,000	1,030	994	<b>984</b>	<b>999</b>
<b>*Weighted Average . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>991</b>
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>					
Brisbane . . . . .	1,000	1,005	986	<b>996</b>	<b>989</b>
Toowoomba . . . . .	1,000	989	946	<b>944</b>	<b>946</b>
Rockhampton . . . . .	1,000	1,004	968	<b>985</b>	<b>977</b>
Charters Towers . . . . .	1,000	1,002	939	<b>937</b>	<b>949</b>
Warwick . . . . .	1,000	962	913	<b>876</b>	<b>924</b>
<b>*Weighted Average . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>978</b>
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Adelaide . . . . .	1,000	1,006	965	<b>944</b>	<b>970</b>
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo . . . . .	1,000	1,029	995	<b>986</b>	<b>995</b>
Port Pirie . . . . .	1,000	1,013	1,009	<b>1,001</b>	<b>1,002</b>
Mt. Gambier . . . . .	1,000	1,034	1,015	<b>993</b>	<b>1,006</b>
Petersburg . . . . .	1,000	1,016	1,029	<b>1,012</b>	<b>1,010</b>
<b>*Weighted Average . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>974</b>
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Perth . . . . .	1,000	990	969	<b>973</b>	<b>978</b>
Kalgoorlie and Boulder . . . . .	1,000	979	954	<b>936</b>	<b>951</b>
Mid. Junct. and Guildford . . . . .	1,000	1,007	979	<b>966</b>	<b>980</b>
Bunbury . . . . .	1,000	985	985	<b>975</b>	<b>981</b>
Geraldton . . . . .	1,000	1,008	1,005	<b>997</b>	<b>1,004</b>
<b>*Weighted Average . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>967</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>972</b>
<b>TASMANIA—</b>					
Hobart . . . . .	1,000	1,063	1,010	<b>999</b>	<b>1,010</b>
Launceston . . . . .	1,000	1,040	980	<b>960</b>	<b>972</b>
Zeehan . . . . .	1,000	1,047	982	<b>944</b>	<b>975</b>
Beaconsfield . . . . .	1,000	1,081	982	<b>945</b>	<b>973</b>
Queenstown . . . . .	1,000	1,034	999	<b>987</b>	<b>1,002</b>
<b>*Weighted Average . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>995</b>
<b>+Weighted Average for C'wealth . . . . .</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>1,000</b>

\* Average for the five towns.      + Average for thirty towns.

NOTE.—The above figures are comparable in the horizontal lines, but are not directly comparable in the vertical columns. The reason for this is obvious when it is understood that the cost in each town separately, whatever it may be, is made = 1000 for the year 1912.

4. **Relative Cost of Living in Different Towns, October to December, 1913.**—The figures given in the preceding paragraphs relate to the increase or decrease in cost of living in individual States and towns, but do not afford any information as to the relative cost in these places. In the following table the average expenditure on Food, Groceries, and House Rent for the thirty towns considered as a whole has been taken as base and made to equal 20s. It will be seen that of every 20s. expended, on the average 11s. 11d. must be paid for Groceries and Food, and 8s. 1d. for Rent. The figures given in this table are fully comparable throughout. Thus it may be seen that the same relative quantities of Groceries and Food, which cost 11s. in Melbourne, would cost 12s. 3d. in Sydney, 17s. 6d. in Kalgoorlie, 10s. 11d. in Ballarat, and 11s. 11d. on the average prices for all thirty towns. Similarly, compared with a relative payment of 9s. 8d. for housing accommodation in Sydney, in Brisbane only 6s. 10d. is paid, in Adelaide 8s. 5d., in Hobart 6s. 11d., and in Beaconsfield as little as 2s. Again, the last column (III.) shews the relative amount which must be paid in each town to secure such relative quantities of Groceries and Food, and to provide housing accommodation which would cost £1 on the average for all towns.

**Purchasing-Power of Money.**—Amounts necessary to purchase in each Town for the Fourth Quarter of 1913, Commodities and Housing Accommodation, which together cost £1 on the Average in the Thirty Towns regarded as a whole.

TOWNS.	I. Groceries and Food.	II. Rent.	III. Groceries Food & Rent.	TOWNS.	I. Groceries and Food.	II. Rent.	III. Groceries Food & Rent.
<b>New South Wales—</b>				<b>South Australia—</b>			
Sydney ..	12 3	9 8	21 11	Adelaide ..	12 0	8 5	20 5
Newcastle ..	12 3	6 0	18 3	Kadina, Moonta ..	12 4	4 7	16 11
Broken Hill ..	14 9	6 0	20 9	Walleroo ..	12 7	6 2	18 9
Goulburn ..	12 2	7 9	19 11	Port Pirie ..	10 11	5 4	16 3
Bathurst ..	11 5	6 5	17 10	Mt. Gambier ..	12 0	7 2	19 2
Weighted Average	12 3	9 3	21 6	Petersburg ..			
<b>Victoria—</b>				Weighted Average	12 0	8 0	20 0
Melbourne ..	11 0	8 6	19 6	<b>Western Australia—</b>			
Ballarat ..	10 11	4 10	15 9	Perth and Fremantle ..	13 8	7 4	21 0
Bendigo ..	11 0	5 2	16 2	Kalgoorlie and Boulder ..	17 6	5 10	23 4
Geelong ..	11 1	6 7	17 8	Midland Junc'n and Guildford ..	14 0	6 3	20 3
Warrnambool ..	11 2	6 0	17 2	Bunbury ..	14 7	5 6	20 1
Weighted Average	11 0	7 11	18 11	Geraldton ..	15 0	8 4	23 4
<b>Queensland—</b>				Weighted Average	14 7	6 11	21 6
Brisbane ..	11 5	6 10	18 3	<b>Tasmania—</b>			
Toowoomba ..	11 8	5 7	17 3	Hobart ..	12 6	6 11	19 5
Rockhampton ..	11 10	5 11	17 9	Launceston ..	11 7	6 4	17 11
Charters Towers ..	13 1	4 7	17 8	Zeehan ..	13 10	2 11	16 9
Warwick ..	11 5	5 0	16 5	Beaconsfield ..	12 7	2 0	14 7
Weighted Average	11 7	6 5	18 0	Queenstown ..	13 11	4 4	18 3
				Weighted Average	12 5	6 2	18 7
				Weighted Average for all Towns	11 11	8 1	20 0*

\* Basis of Table.

It will be observed from this table that New South Wales and Western Australia are relatively the most expensive and Queensland the cheapest State, New South Wales and Western Australia being 7.5 per cent. above and Queensland 10 per cent. below the average. Kal-

goorlie and Bunbury, in Western Australia, are the most expensive towns, and Beaconsfield, in Tasmania, the cheapest. Kalgoorlie and Geraldton are 16.7 per cent. above, and Beaconsfield 27.1 per cent. below the average.

**5. Capital Towns only—Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers 1911 to 1913.**—It has been pointed out (see footnote † to table on page 251) that the index-numbers previously given herein are not generally comparable with those given in Reports Nos. 1 and 2, in which the year 1911 was taken as base (= 1000) for the capital towns only, instead of the year 1912 for all the thirty towns in the previous paragraphs. In order to maintain the continuity of the results given in these previous reports the following particulars are given for the capital towns only, taking the weighted average cost in 1911, firstly for each town separately, and secondly for all six towns together as base (= 1000):—

**Retail Price, House Rent and Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in each Capital Town 1911 to 1913, with Year 1911 as Base (= 1000).\***

Particulars.	1911.	1912.		1913.			Average for Whole Year.
		Whole Year.	Fourth Quarter. (Oct. to Dec.)	Third Quarter. (July to Sept.)	Fourth Quarter. (Oct. to Dec.)		
GROCERIES AND FOOD.							
Sydney .. ..	1,000	1,136	1,189	1,140	1,116	1,144	
Melbourne .. ..	1,000	1,156	1,190	1,091	1,088	1,095	
Brisbane .. ..	1,000	1,082	1,092	1,022	1,017	1,025	
Adelaide .. ..	1,000	1,132	1,154	1,095	1,070	1,097	
Perth .. ..	1,000	999	968	928	925	942	
Hobart .. ..	1,000	1,125	1,218	1,106	1,077	1,100	
Weighted Average	1,000	1,129	1,165	1,091	1,070	1,095	
RENT.							
Sydney .. ..	1,000	1,085	1,117	1,142	1,169	1,142	
Melbourne .. ..	1,000	1,047	1,078	1,133	1,139	1,123	
Brisbane .. ..	1,000	1,048	1,045	1,121	1,161	1,125	
Adelaide .. ..	1,000	1,043	1,029	1,003	983	1,012	
Perth .. ..	1,000	1,086	1,126	1,147	1,168	1,145	
Hobart .. ..	1,000	1,030	1,052	1,097	1,119	1,110	
Weighted Average	1,000	1,063	1,087	1,120	1,185	1,118	
GROCERIES, FOOD, AND RENT.							
Sydney .. ..	1,000	1,113	1,157	1,141	1,139	1,143	
Melbourne .. ..	1,000	1,111	1,143	1,109	1,098	1,107	
Brisbane .. ..	1,000	1,071	1,076	1,056	1,066	1,059	
Adelaide .. ..	1,000	1,094	1,100	1,056	1,032	1,061	
Perth .. ..	1,000	1,025	1,015	993	997	1,002	
Hobart .. ..	1,000	1,092	1,160	1,103	1,091	1,103	
Weighted Average	1,000	1,101	1,130	1,103	1,096	1,104	

\* For corresponding figures for previous years see Report No. 1 (pp. 26 to 39) and No. 2 (pp. 48 to 53) of Labour and Industrial Branch.

NOTE.—The above figures are comparable in the horizontal lines but are not directly comparable in the vertical columns. Results which are in all respects comparable are given in the following paragraph (6).

It may be seen that there has been a decrease in the weighted average result for the capital towns equal to 0.6 per cent. since the preceding quarter (July to September, 1913), and to 3.4 per cent. since the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1912. The weighted average index-number for the year 1913 is 1104, compared with 1101 for 1912, and 1000 for 1911. Thus it will be seen that the cost-of-living index-number for the six capital towns is practically the same for 1913 as for 1912, but is 10.4 per cent. higher than that for 1911. Compared with the year 1912, the index-numbers are higher in 1913 for Sydney by 3 per cent., and for Hobart by 1 per cent. They are lower in Adelaide (3 per cent.), Perth (2 per cent.), Brisbane (1 per cent.), and Melbourne (0.4 per cent.). Compared with the year 1911, they are higher in all the towns, the increase being greatest in Sydney (14.3 per cent.), followed in the order named by Melbourne (10.7 per cent.), Hobart (10.3 per cent.), Adelaide (6.1 per cent.), Brisbane (5.9 per cent.), and Perth (0.2 per cent.).

As regards the latter town it was pointed out in Report No. 2 (pages 50 to 52) that the conditions governing variations in cost of living and prices in Western Australia are often in many respects entirely different to those in the Eastern States. The index-number for 1913 for Groceries and Food is substantially higher than that for 1911 in each of the capital towns except Perth, where it is 5.8 per cent. lower. Rents, on the other hand, have advanced in Perth during the current year, as in all the other capital towns except Adelaide. Owing to the relative importance of the expenditure on Groceries and Food being nearly double that on Rent, the combined result on the aggregate expenditure on Groceries, Food, and Rent taken together is such that the index-number for Perth for the year 1913 is practically the same as for 1911, whereas in the other capital towns the combined index-numbers shew a substantial increase since 1911.

It should be observed that the variations in 1912 and 1913 in the weighted average index-numbers for the capital towns only are very similar to those observed in the index-numbers for the whole thirty towns. The averages for the year 1913 in both cases being practically the same as those for the year 1912. This shews *prima facie* that the result of any investigation into the relative cost of living from year to year in the capital towns only furnishes a substantially accurate reflex of the conditions obtaining in the Commonwealth as a whole. Thus the weighted average index-numbers for the capital towns for years prior to 1912, published in Report No. 2, as well as the variations in the purchasing-power of money shewn in the following paragraph hereof, may be taken as indicating generally the conditions obtaining in the whole Commonwealth.

**6. Purchasing-Power of Money.**—In the table given in the preceding paragraph attention was drawn to the fact that the index-numbers are comparable horizontally, but are not directly comparable in the vertical columns. In the following table results have been combined (a) shewing variations in cost of living from year to year in each town separately, and (b) shewing relative cost of living in the several towns, giving results which are in all respects comparable. The

average cost for the six capital towns in the year 1911 has been taken as base. This base has been tak<sup>en</sup> as equal to 20s. instead of 1000 as in the former tables.

The figures in the following tables shew the variations in cost of living from year to year in each town separately (in the vertical lines), and the relative cost in the several towns in each year (in the horizontal lines). It may be seen, for example, that 20s. 7d. in Sydney in 1911 was equivalent to 18s. 4d. in Brisbane, or 19s. 1d. in Hobart, or that 20s. 10d. in Melbourne for the last quarter was equivalent to 15s. 5d. in Brisbane in 1901, or 22s. 6d. in Perth in 1913.

**PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY.**—Amounts necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1913 to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.†

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'rne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
1901 ...	17 10	17 5	15 5	17 3	20 6	17 5	17 7
1902 ...	19 7	18 1	16 0	17 3	21 7	17 10	18 7
1903 ...	19 2	17 7	15 9	16 9	21 8	17 11	18 2
1904 ...	17 5	17 1	14 8	16 3	20 10	17 1	17 2
1905 ...	18 9	17 7	15 5	17 6	20 11	17 9	18 0
1906 ...	18 8	17 7	15 7	17 10	20 5	18 0	18 0
1907 ...	18 6	17 6	15 11	17 11	19 9	17 9	17 11
1908 ...	19 9	18 6	17 1	19 1	20 0	18 5	19 0
1909 ...	19 9	18 1	17 0	19 10	19 9	19 0	19 0
1910 ...	19 11	18 10	17 6	20 2	20 6	19 0	19 5
1911 ...	20 7	19 0	18 4	21 2	22 6	19 1	20 0*
1912 ...	22 11	21 1	19 7	23 2	23 1	20 10	22 0
<b>1913 ...</b>	<b>23 7</b>	<b>21 0</b>	<b>19 5</b>	<b>22 5</b>	<b>22 6</b>	<b>21 1</b>	<b>22 1</b>
1912	1st Quarter	21 4	19 9	19 6	22 6	22 4	19 7
	2nd	22 5	20 10	19 6	23 2	23 8	20 2
	3rd	24 1	22 1	19 8	23 8	23 6	21 5
	4th	23 10	21 8	19 8	23 3	22 10	22 2
1913	1st	23 5	21 0	19 1	22 8	22 6	21 1
	2nd	23 10	21 2	19 7	22 11	22 11	21 3
	3rd	23 6	21 1	19 4	22 4	22 4	21 1
	4th	<b>23 6</b>	<b>20 10</b>	<b>19 6</b>	<b>21 10</b>	<b>22 5</b>	<b>20 10</b>

\* Basis of Table.

† It is necessary to observe that figures given for the Capital towns in this table are not comparable with those given in the table on page 255. This will be at once evident when it is explained that in the case of the above table the base taken is the weighted average of the six Capital Towns for 1911, whereas the base of the table on page 255 is the weighted average for 30 towns for the fourth quarter of 1913.

(i) *Groceries and Food only.*—The following table has been computed in the same manner as that indicated above, but relates to groceries and food (46 items) only. The average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 has again been taken as the basis of the table (= 20s.), and the figures are, of course, comparable throughout.

**Purchasing-Power of Money.—Groceries and Food only.**—Amount necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1913 to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1901 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted
							Average of 6 Capital Towns.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901	18 4	19 4	19 4	20 7	23 8	20 3	19 4
1902	21 4	20 4	20 4	20 6	25 6	21 0	21 1
1903	20 7	19 6	19 9	19 8	25 8	21 1	20 4
1904	17 6	18 4	17 10	18 10	24 3	19 8	18 5
1905	19 5	19 1	18 11	19 10	25 2	20 7	19 8
1906	19 3	18 11	19 2	19 8	24 9	20 11	19 7
1907	18 9	18 6	18 11	19 0	23 11	20 2	19 1
1908	20 7	19 11	20 6	20 2	24 6	21 1	20 7
1909	20 3	19 0	19 8	20 6	24 3	21 10	20 1
1910	20 0	19 2	20 0	20 0	25 0	21 6	20 1
1911	19 9	18 8	20 4	20 5	26 11	21 2	20 0*
1912	22 6	21 8	22 0	23 1	26 11	23 10	22 6
<b>1913</b>	<b>22 8</b>	<b>20 6</b>	<b>20 10</b>	<b>22 5</b>	<b>25 4</b>	<b>23 3</b>	<b>21 11</b>
1st quarter	20 9	19 9	21 11	22 0	26 0	21 10	21 0
2nd "	21 10	21 5	21 11	22 11	28 2	22 11	22 3
3rd "	23 11	23 2	22 1	23 10	27 4	24 8	23 9
4th "	23 6	22 3	22 3	23 6	26 1	25 9	23 2
1st "	22 9	20 9	20 9	22 5	25 6	23 2	22 0
2nd "	23 2	20 10	21 2	22 11	26 0	23 9	22 4
3rd "	22 7	20 5	20 10	22 4	25 0	23 5	21 10
4th "	<b>22 1</b>	<b>20 0</b>	<b>20 8</b>	<b>21 10</b>	<b>24 11</b>	<b>22 9</b>	<b>21 5</b>

\* Basis of Table.

(ii) *House Rent only.*—The following table gives similar particulars for *house rent only*, the average for the six towns in 1911 being again taken as the basis of the table (=20s.):—

**Purchasing-Power of Money—House Rent—Amount payable on the Average in each Year from 1910 to 1913 for House Rent in each Capital Town, compared with a Rent of £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.**

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted
							Average of 6 Capital Towns.
	s. d.						
1901	17 3	14 8	9 9	12 7	16 0	13 4	15 1
1902	17 3	14 11	9 10	12 7	15 11	13 5	15 2
1903	17 4	14 11	10 1	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 3
1904	17 5	15 3	10 2	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 4
1905	17 10	15 5	10 5	14 0	14 9	13 7	15 8
1906	17 11	15 8	10 6	15 3	14 4	13 9	15 11
1907	18 4	16 1	11 6	16 3	13 8	14 2	16 4
1908	18 7	16 7	12 4	17 5	13 7	14 7	16 10
1909	19 2	16 10	13 3	18 10	13 4	15 0	17 5
1910	19 10	18 4	14 0	20 4	13 11	15 6	18 5
1911	21 10	19 5	15 4	22 3	16 3	16 1	20 0*
1912	23 8	20 4	16 1	23 2	17 7	16 7	21 3
<b>1913</b>	<b>24 11</b>	<b>21 10</b>	<b>17 3</b>	<b>22 6</b>	<b>18 7</b>	<b>17 10</b>	<b>22 4</b>
1st quarter	22 4	19 8	16 0	23 3	17 0	16 3	20 6
2nd "	23 4	20 0	16 1	23 5	17 2	16 4	21 1
3rd "	24 7	20 7	16 2	23 5	18 0	16 10	21 10
4th "	24 4	20 11	16 0	22 11	18 3	16 11	21 7
1st "	24 5	21 4	16 10	22 11	18 3	18 0	22 0
2nd "	24 10	21 9	17 2	22 11	18 6	17 9	22 4
3rd "	24 11	22 0	17 3	22 3	18 7	17 8	22 5
4th "	<b>25 6</b>	<b>22 1</b>	<b>17 10</b>	<b>21 10</b>	<b>18 11</b>	<b>18 0</b>	<b>22 8</b>

\* Bas's of Table.

## SECTION IV.—WHOLESALE PRICES.

1. **Index-Numbers.**—The index-number for wholesale prices in Melbourne during the fourth quarter of the year 1913 is the same as that for the third quarter, viz., 1072, no change having taken place in the general level of prices. During the corresponding quarters of 1912 (third and fourth quarters) the index-number fell from 1229 to 1204. The completion of the index-number for the last quarter of 1913 shews that the average wholesale price-level for the whole of that year was 1088, compared with 1172 for 1912. This shews a decrease of over 7 per cent. Index-numbers at decennial periods since 1871 and for each year since 1909\* are shewn in the following table:—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers, 1871 to 1913.

YEAR.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Index No.+ .. . . .	1,229	1,121	945	974	993	1,003	1,000	1,172	1,088

2. **Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups.**—Of the eight groups into which the 92 commodities are divided, the index-number for the quarter under review shews a material fall in the case of Group III. (Agricultural Produce) only. The index-number for this group fell from 1062 to 1025, a decrease of nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., the index-number for the fourth quarter of 1912 was 1461, so that since the corresponding period of the preceding year there has been a fall of no less than 30 per cent. in this group. In Groups I. (Metals and Coal) and V. (Groceries and Tobacco) price-levels were stationary during the quarter, and have changed but little since the fourth quarter of 1912. In Groups VI. (Meat) and VII. (Building Materials) there is a rise of about 1 per cent. in the index-numbers, but, whereas in the former group the price-level is 11 per cent. below that in the corresponding period of 1912, in the latter it is over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. higher. An increase of about 2 per cent. has taken place in the index-numbers of Groups IV. (Dairy Produce) and VIII. (Chemicals), and a rise of nearly 4 per cent. in Group II. (Textiles and Leather). Price-levels in Group IV. are 5 per cent. lower than in the fourth quarter of 1912, while in Groups II. and VIII. they are 6 and 3 per cent. higher, respectively.

\* For more detailed information as to variations in wholesale prices, index-numbers, &c., see Labour and Industrial Branch, Report No. 1, pp. 43 to 66, and No. 2, pp. 60 to 64.

\* See graph on page 238 hereinbefore.

## Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers for Three Months, October to December, 1913.

GROUP.	No. of Com- modities.	INDEX-NUMBERS.		
		October to December, 1912.	July to September, 1913.	October to December, 1913.
I.—Metals and Coal ..	14	1,041	1,047	<b>1,047</b>
II.—Textiles, Leather, etc.	10	1,032	1,055	<b>1,096</b>
III.—Agricultural Produce	16	1,461	1,062	<b>1,025</b>
IV.—Dairy Produce ..	9	1,126	1,053	<b>1,071</b>
V.—Groceries and Tobacco	21	1,038	1,023	<b>1,023</b>
VI.—Meat .. ..	5	1,393	1,230	<b>1,242</b>
VII.—Building Materials ..	10	1,102	1,122	<b>1,131</b>
VIII.—Chemicals .. ..	7	991	995	<b>1,019</b>
ALL GROUPS.* .. ..	92	1,204	1,072	<b>1,072</b>

\* Weighted Average.

In the following paragraphs brief remarks are given in regard to the chief features of the rise and fall in prices of commodities included in Groups II., III., and IV., in which the more important movements occurred during the quarter:—

3. **Textiles, Leather, etc.**—All jute goods rose in price, branbags from 6s. 2d. to 6s. 8d. per doz., cornsacks from 7s. 3d. to 7s. 11½d. per doz., and woolpacks from 2s. 10d. to 3s. 2½d. each. Raw cotton rose from 6½d. to 7½d., and greasy wool from 9½d. to 9½d. per lb.

4. **Agricultural Produce.**—All cereals, except maize, fell in price, wheat from 3s. 8½d. to 3s. 6d., oats from 2s. 3½d. to 2s. 0½d., malting barley from 3s. 11½d. to 3s. 7½d., and feed barley from 3s. to 2s. 6½d. per bushel. Maize, on the other hand, rose from 3s. 8½d. to 3s. 11½d. per bushel. Wheat products fell in sympathy with the price of wheat, flour from 175s. to 172s. 8d., bran from 97s. 2d. to 93s. 8d., and pollard from 97s. 4d. to 96s. 5d. per ton. Fodder shewed a reduction in price, trussed manger hay having fallen from 110s. to 107s. 6d., and best chaff from 67s. to 63s. per ton. Victorian straw, on the other hand, rose from 34s. 4d. to 36s. 6d. per ton. Potatoes fell from 55s. 1d. to 41s. 6d., and onions from 122s. 5d. to 120s. 6d. per ton. Practically the price of every commodity in this group was lower in the fourth quarter of 1913 than in the corresponding quarter of 1912, the difference being most marked in potatoes, the corresponding prices of which for the two quarters were 263s. 4d. and 41s. 6d. per ton, respectively.

5. **Dairy Produce.**—Both ham and bacon rose in price, the former from 9½d. to 1s. 0½d., and the latter from 8½d. to 10½d. per lb. Butter, however, fell from 1s. 0½d. to 11½d. per lb. Eggs also fell from 11d. to 9½d. per dozen. With the exception of ham and bacon all commodities in this group were cheaper during the last quarter of 1913 than during the corresponding quarter of 1912.

## SECTION V.—INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

1. **General.**—The systematic collection of information as to strikes and lock-outs\* throughout the Commonwealth was first undertaken by this Bureau as from 1st January, 1913, and particulars concerning disputes occurring during the first three quarters of this year were furnished in Labour Bulletins Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Information as to the method adopted for the collection of such particulars was furnished in Bulletin No. 1 (see page 37), and need not be repeated here. The completion of the records for the fourth quarter of 1913 enables summarised results to be presented for the whole of that year, which is the first complete year for which these records have been maintained. Particulars will be published at an early date in greater detail, shewing in classified form the causes, methods of settlement, and results of disputes. The following table gives particulars of disputes in each State and Territory of the Commonwealth during 1913:—

## INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.—Summarised Particulars for the Whole Year, 1913

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	F.T. *	N.T.†	C'wlth.
No. of Disputes .. ..	134	29	17	9	9	8	1	1	208
No. of Workpeople Involved	40,011	6,177	2,006	288	967	464	200	170	50,283
No. of Working Days Lost	447,979	77,587	77,178	2,412	12,492	987	1,400	2,500	622,535
Total Estmtd. Loss in Wages £	208,468	32,596	37,684	1,029	5,615	434	600	1,675	288,101

\* Federal Capital Territory.      † Northern Territory.

The above table shews that nearly 70 per cent. of the disputes during 1913 occurred in New South Wales. The total number of disputes during the year was 208, involving 50,283 workpeople, of whom 33,493 were directly and 16,790 indirectly involved. The working days lost during the twelve months totalled 622,535, causing an estimated total loss in wages of £288,101. The average loss per head for all workpeople involved in disputes during the year was £5 14s. 7d.

While precise results as to the general loss to the whole community or the special loss to employers entailed through these disputes is not available, some rough idea of the magnitude of such losses may be obtained. For the whole of the manufacturing industries of the Commonwealth the returns for the past six years shew that the average proportion of the "wages paid" to the "total value of output" is almost exactly 20 per cent. Assuming that this average applies approximately to all industries affected by the above disputes, it follows that the aggregate resulting *loss in output* would be roughly about five

\* For the purpose of these investigations a strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by a part or all of the employees of an establishment, or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees, or of resisting some demand made by their employers. A lockout is a refusal on the part of an employer, or several employers, to permit a part or all of the employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand on the part of the employers, or to resist some demand made by their employees. Under these definitions certain disputes resulting in stoppage of work are excluded (such for example as those in which work is done by contract or under agreement, and in which the relation of employer and employee consequently does not exist).

times the total loss in wages, that is, it would amount approximately to £1,400,000. On a basis of an average profit of 10 per cent. on the value of the output there would be an *immediate and direct loss to employers* of £140,000, that is, about half the amount of loss in wages, but the resultant indirect losses and damage to business and trade eventually may, in some instances of course, be very large compared with the direct losses. The necessary data for the estimation of these indirect losses is, however, not obtainable. Particulars of results of disputes and of increases in rates of wages obtained after, and without, stoppage of work, will be furnished in a later report.

Particulars of new disputes which commenced during the fourth quarter (October to December), as well as of the number of working days and amount of wages lost during the quarter in disputes which began before October, but were still in progress at the beginning of the quarter, are given in the following paragraphs. The first table shews the number and magnitude of disputes occurring in each State, the second furnishes particulars of disputes classified according to Industrial Group. It should be observed that the results given in these tables are exclusive of disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, or which lasted less than one day, except where the aggregate numbers of working days lost exceeded 100 days. The omission of these small disputes affects the results only very slightly.

**2. Number and Magnitude of Disputes in each State—October to December, 1913.**—The following table gives particulars of strikes and lock-outs in each State during the fourth quarter of the year 1913; the corresponding figures for the first, second, and third quarters of the year are also included for comparative purposes:—

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES—Number and Magnitude of Disputes in each State during October to December, 1913.**

State.	No. of New Disputes	No. of establishments Involved in New Disputes	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.	
New South Wales . . . .	39	82	5,038	1,038	6,076	49,242	10,880	60,122	28,794
Victoria . . . . .	8	16	464	1,485	1,949	3,771	23,508	27,279	11,680
Queensland . . . . .	5	7	115	9	124	2,140	..	2,140	1,212
South Australia . . . .	3	3	189	10	199	1,594	..	1,594	675
Western Australia . . . .	2	2	123	..	123	1,473	..	1,473	595
Tasmania . . . . .	3	22	75	..	75	285	..	285	87
C'wealth.	4th Quarter . .	60	132	6,004	2,542	8,546	58,505	34,388	92,893
	3rd Quarter . .	60	351	6,734	4,939	11,673	80,249	58,570	138,819
	2nd Quarter . .	49	62	8,972	7,858	16,830	126602	138700	265,302
	1st Quarter . .	39	376	11,783	1,451	13,234	98,601	26,920	125,521
Total for Year, 1913 . .	208	921	33,493	16,790	50,283	363957	258578	622,535	288101

\* Total loss during the quarter for all disputes, both new and old.

The number of new disputes throughout the Commonwealth during the fourth quarter of the year 1913 was 60, being equal to the number which commenced during the July to September quarter, 11 in excess of those which occurred during the second quarter, and 21 in excess of those which commenced during January, February, and March. The number of workpeople involved in the 60 new disputes occurring in the quarter under review was 8546, as compared with 11,673 in the third quarter, 16,830 in the second quarter, and 13,234 in the three months—January to March; and the former number, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before October and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, gives a total of 9279 workpeople involved in disputes in the fourth quarter, as compared with 13,885 during the third quarter, 21,041 during the second quarter, and 13,825 during January to March.

The number of working days lost through new disputes during the quarter—October to December—was 58,505, which is considerably less than the number lost during any of the three preceding quarters, when the numbers were:—Third quarter (80,249), second quarter (126,602), and January to March quarter (98,601). Seven disputes which commenced prior to the beginning of October continued into the fourth quarter, and were responsible for a loss of 34,388 working days. It is estimated that the total loss in wages during the fourth quarter of the year was £43,043, as compared with £58,163, £131,008, and £55,887 in the third, second and first quarters respectively, giving a total loss for the twelve months of £288,101. It may be observed that although the number of disputes (60) during the fourth quarter was considerably higher than the numbers which occurred during the first and second quarters of the year, the number of workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated total loss in wages were less, owing to the fact that the majority of the disputes during October, November and December were of short duration, in many cases the stoppage of work lasting for one day only.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—The number of new disputes in New South Wales during the fourth quarter was 39, being practically two-thirds of the total number of disputes which occurred throughout the Commonwealth during the three months under review. No fewer than 20 new disputes occurred in the mining industry in New South Wales, involving 3902 employees engaged at the northern and southern colliery districts, and also at silver mining at Broken Hill. The total number of employees involved in the 39 disputes in this State was 6076, of whom 5038 were directly affected, and 1038 indirectly affected. The working days lost during the quarter numbered 60,122, of which 49,242 were lost on account of disputes which commenced during October, November and December, while old disputes were responsible for the loss of 10,880 days. Two disputes which had been in progress for some considerable time, viz., the Stockton Borehole and Lambton collieries' disputes, terminated during the fourth quarter. The estimated amount of wages lost during October to December for all disputes in New South Wales was £28,794.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—Eight new disputes occurred in this State during the fourth quarter, as compared with 10 disputes in the quarter ended September. The number of workpeople involved, however, was considerably higher, the figures being 1949 in the fourth quarter and 1282 in the third quarter. Four disputes which commenced prior to October continued into the last quarter of the year, and were responsible for a loss of 23,508 working days. The Bendigo miners' dispute over the non-union question terminated in October, but the dispute involving miners in the Beaufort district was still in progress at the end of December. The number of working days lost in Victoria for all disputes during the three months—October to December—was 27,279, causing an estimated loss in wages of £11,680.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—Five new disputes, involving 124 workpeople, occurred in this State during the fourth quarter. The number of working days lost was 2140, and the estimated loss in wages was £1212. The dispute involving labourers engaged on the construction of water works and baths on Thursday Island is included in the figures for Queensland.

(iv.) *Other States*.—Three disputes occurred in South Australia during the October to December quarter. The number of workpeople affected was 199, while the loss of working days was 1594, causing an estimated loss in wages of £675. In Western Australia and Tasmania the number of disputes in the fourth quarter was 2 and 3 respectively. In the former State the number of workpeople involved was 123, the loss of working days 1473, and the estimated loss in wages was £595. The 3 disputes in Tasmania involved 75 workpeople, causing a loss of 285 working days and an estimated loss in wages of £87. A number of females were involved in a dispute which arose in Tasmania regarding working conditions in the tailoring trade.

**3. Number and Magnitude of Disputes in Different Industrial Groups—October to December, 1913.**—The following table gives particulars of disputes in the Commonwealth during the fourth quarter of the year 1913, classified according to Industrial Groups. The system of classification selected is similar to that adopted in connection with labour organisations, unemployment, rates of wages, etc. (see Report No. 2—Labour and Industrial Branch, page 6):—

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude of Disputes during October to December, 1913, According to Industrial Groups.

Industrial Group.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of Establishments Involved	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total	
I. Wood, Sawmill, Timber, etc. . . .	1	1	20	..	20	40	..	40	£ 20
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	3	3	105	..	105	700	3,160	3,860	1,837
III. Food, Drink, etc., Manufacturing and Distribution . . .	4	29	284	656	940	13,948	100	14,048	6,799
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . . .	1	1	35	..	35	245	..	245	80
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	1	1	8	..	8	384	..	384	185
VI. Other Manufacturing	6	9	231	130	361	4,717	..	4,717	2,137
VII. Building . . .	1	1	13	9	22	22	..	22	10
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	25	25	3,310	1,737	5,047	9,800	23,228	33,028	15,576
IX. Railway and Tramway Services . .	3	5	256	..	256	2,108	..	2,108	845
XI. Shipping, etc. . .	8	18	1,090	10	1,100	24,449	..	24,449	11,588
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. . . .	3	28	490	..	490	690	..	690	254
XIII. Domestic, Hotel, etc.	1	7	25	..	25	75	..	75	36
XIV. Miscellaneous . . .	3	4	137	..	137	1,327	7,900	9,227	3,676
<b>TOTAL, 4TH QUARTER . .</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>6,004</b>	<b>2,542</b>	<b>8,546</b>	<b>58,505</b>	<b>34,388</b>	<b>92,893</b>	<b>43,043</b>
,, 3RD . . .	60	351	6,734	4,939	11,673	80,249	58,570	138,819	58,163
,, 2ND . . .	49	62	8,972	7,858	16,830	126,602	138,700	265,302	131,008
,, 1ST . . .	39	376	11,783	1,451	13,234	98,601	26,920	125,521	55,887
,, <b>YEAR, 1913 . .</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>33,493</b>	<b>16,790</b>	<b>50,283</b>	<b>363,957</b>	<b>258,578</b>	<b>622,535</b>	<b>288,101</b>

\* Total loss during the quarter for all disputes, both new and old.

Of the 60 new disputes which began during the fourth quarter of the year no fewer than 25 occurred in Class VIII. (Mines, Quarries, etc.). The number of stoppages in this industrial group during the previous quarter was 29. The majority of the 25 disputes in the mining industry occurred at the northern collieries in New South Wales. Twenty stoppages of work in connection with mining occurred in New South Wales, three in Victoria, and one each in Queensland and Western Australia respectively. The number of workpeople involved in these 25 disputes was 5047, of whom 3310 were directly and 1737 indirectly involved. The loss in working days occasioned by new disputes in the mining industry during the quarter under review was 9800,

while old disputes were responsible for a loss of 23,228 days, making a total of 33,028 working days lost during October, November and December. This loss is considerably less than that for the previous quarter, when the number of working days lost was 85,825. This difference is caused by the fact that the majority of the disputes during the fourth quarter were of short duration. Eight disputes occurred during October, November and December, involving workpeople engaged in Class XI. (Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.). The number of workpeople affected was 1100, and the loss in working days was 24,449, causing an estimated loss in wages for the quarter of £11,588. Five of these stoppages occurred in New South Wales. The greater part of the loss in working days and wages in this industrial group was caused by the action of seamen, wharf labourers, and others employed on or about steamers engaged in the New Zealand trade. In Class VI. (Other Manufacturing), six disputes occurred, affecting employees in the tanning, brickmaking, shippainting, glassmaking, and boiling-down industries. Four disputes involving 940 workpeople engaged in the preparation or distribution of food and drink (Class III.) occurred, while three disputes occurred in each of the following industrial groups:—Class II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.); Class IX. (Railway and Tramway Services); Class XII. (Pastoral and Agricultural); and Class XIV. (Miscellaneous).

#### 4. Particulars of Principal Disputes during the Fourth Quarter, 1913.—

In the table on page 269 particulars are given regarding several of the most important disputes which occurred during October, November and December, 1913.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—The principal disputes in this State during the fourth quarter involved employees in the slaughtering, mining, shipping, and tanning industries. The slaughtermen at Auburn, Sydney, objected to work with a man who was employed by the company unless certain action regarding his method of employment was taken. On their request being refused the slaughtermen stopped work. The dispute was pending at the end of the quarter. A dispute occurred at the Block 10 Mine, Broken Hill. A platman or cage attendant was dismissed, and on other men being dismissed for refusing to take his place, a general stoppage of work occurred. After a conference with the management amicable arrangements were agreed upon, and work was resumed. A series of sympathetic strikes occurred in the shipping industry. Seamen, stewards, wharf labourers, and others engaged upon vessels trading to New Zealand refused to handle cargo loaded by non-unionists in New Zealand. On the strike in the Dominion being declared "off" work was resumed. A dispute occurred in the tanning industry over the non-union question. Certain employees were requested to join the union, but refused. Members of the union declined to work and the dispute was pending at the end of December. Considerable unrest existed amongst workers in the agricultural industry. The claims made by the members of the Australian Workers' Union for increased wages according to the new log, resulted in a series of dislocations in various districts during November and December. It has been found

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difficult to obtain definite particulars regarding the whole of these disputes. In many cases the men did not start work, on their claim for log rates being refused. The disputes at the collieries during the fourth quarter were of short duration.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—The principal dispute in this State during the quarter ended December involved employees engaged in the slaughtering of sheep and lambs for export. The men asked for an increase of 2s. 6d. per 100. The rate per 100 previous to the claim was 27s. 6d. A compulsory conference under the Commonwealth Arbitration Act was called by the President of the Court, and work was resumed at the old rates. It is understood that the matter is to come before the Arbitration Court, and that in the event of an increase in wages being granted, the payment of such rates will be made retrospective. A stoppage of work occurred at the State Coal Mine in November, and was caused by the wheelers refusing to work as a protest against certain of their number being transferred to night shift as a penalty for disobedience. Work was resumed on the advice of the union officials. Other disputes involving miners, glassblowers' assistants, wheelers at coal mine, boilermakers, and boiling-down establishments employees occurred during the quarter.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—The dispute affecting labourers employed on the construction of water works at Thursday Island was the most important in this State during the quarter under review. The cause of the dispute was a claim by the men for an increase in wages and a reduction of hours. A compulsory conference under the Industrial Peace Act of 1912 was called, and an agreement made. The wages and hours as per agreement were 12s. per day for a week of 47 hours. The miners at Koorboora are engaged in a dispute with the management regarding the alleged victimisation of two members of the union. The dispute was pending at the end of the quarter. Builders' labourers, shipwrights, and wharf labourers were also involved in industrial disputes in this State during the fourth quarter.

(iv.) *Other States*.—South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania were comparatively free from industrial disputes during the last quarter of the year. In South Australia sewerage and drainage workers, wharf labourers, and railway construction workers were involved. In Western Australia only two disputes occurred, affecting mining engineers and horse drivers employed on railway construction work. The principal dispute in Tasmania involved employees in the tailoring trade. A number of female workers were out of work on account of this dispute, the cause of which was the objection of the members of the union to the introduction of the "teams' system" into one establishment. Slaughtermen at Launceston were also involved in an industrial dispute regarding working conditions. The stoppage of work was only of short duration.

**Industrial Disputes.—Particulars of Principal Disputes beginning during the Fourth Quarter, 1913.**

Industry and Locality Affected.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date of Commencement and Termination.	Alleged Cause or Object	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<b>New South Wales</b> Slaughtermen (Auburn, Sydney).	44	270	17th Nov.	Refusal of slaughtermen to work with a certain employee alleged to have worked with non-union labour during previous dispute.	Pending at end of quarter.
Miners, Block 10 Mine (Broken Hill).	250	140	13th Nov. to 15th Nov.	Objection by men to take up duties of platman who had been dismissed.	Work resumed after conference with General Manager.
Colliery Employees, Coal Cliff Colliery (Clifton).	140	60	15th Dec. to 20th Dec.	Miners objected to two "Bords" being included in double shift special places.	Suggestion of Chairman of Wages Board re method of working adopted.
Seamen, Stewards, and others (Sydney).	60 to 617	—	4th Nov. to 19th Dec.	Sympathy with men on strike in New Zealand.	Work resumed on settlement of industrial dispute in New Zealand
Tanners (Botany).	39	—	9th Oct.	Refusal to work with men who were not members of the Union.	Pending at end of quarter.
<b>Victoria</b> — Slaughtermen (Melbourne, Geelong and Murtos).	223	370	17th Oct. to 20th Oct.	Claim by slaughtermen for 30s. per 100 for slaughtering sheep and lambs for export. Previous rate was 27s. 6d. per 100.	Compulsory conference under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. Men resumed work pending settlement of the dispute by Arbitration Court.
Wheelers, State Coal Mine (Wonthaggi).	96	850	27th Nov. to 28th Nov.	Wheelers refused to work because certain wheelers were transferred to night shift as a penalty for disobeying orders.	Work resumed, and matter left in hands of Union officials for settlement.
<b>Queensland</b> — Mining Employees (Kooroora).	30	—	24th Oct.	Alleged victimisation of two members of the Union.	Pending at end of quarter.
Labourers Water Works and Baths (Thursday Island).	45	—	10th Oct. to 27th Oct.	Claim by men for increased wages and reduced hours.	Compulsory conference under Industrial Peace Act, 1912. Agreement made.
<b>South Australia</b> Railway Workers (Mintaro).	99	—	8th Dec. to 15th Dec.	Protest against non-unionists being employed.	Men who left work were paid off. Work proceeding.
<b>Western Australia</b> Horse Drivers Railway Construction (Yilliminning).	120	—	12th Dec. to 31st Dec.	Horse drivers objected to brush their horses, claiming such work should be done by grooms.	Men agreed to brush horses on condition that not more than 5 minutes night and morning be so occupied.
<b>Tasmania</b> — Tailoring (Hobart).	35	—	21st Oct. to 28th Oct.	Objection of employees to the introduction of the "teams system."	Work resumed after conference. "Teams system" not to be introduced.

## SECTION VI.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.

**1. General.**—In the first issue of this Bulletin it was pointed out that for the purposes of the statistical investigations made by this Bureau in regard to variations in wages, a change in rate of wages is defined as a change in the weekly rate of remuneration of a certain class of employees apart from any change in the nature of the work performed, or apart from any revision of rates due to increased length of service or experience.\*

Information was also given in Bulletin No. 1 (see page 41) as to the sources of information and methods of collection and computation. In addition to the organisations and persons specified therein as furnishing returns to this Bureau, it may be mentioned that the various Government Departments have also sent in returns concerning changes in rates of wage affecting their employees. During the year 1913 a considerable number of awards and determinations of industrial courts and wages boards came into operation, and numerous industrial agreements were filed under Commonwealth and State Acts. Particulars concerning changes in the rates of wages effected as a result of industrial disputes have also been collected, and are included in the following tables. In addition to these changes a number of voluntary agreements between employers and employees were arranged, and information as to the rates before and after such changes has been collected and the particulars tabulated. It is intended to publish at an early date further particulars regarding the methods by which the various changes were effected, and regarding the result and extent of operations under the various Acts in force governing the regulation of wages.

The following table shews the number of changes, the number of persons affected, the total amount of increase per week, and the average increase per person affected per week for each State in the Commonwealth during the year 1913. It should be observed that some of the figures in the subjoined tables are preliminary, and may be subject to slight amendment, inasmuch as further inquiries are being made regarding certain changes, the available particulars for which cannot at present be accepted as final. The necessary amendments, if any, will be shewn in a later publication, which will furnish more detailed results regarding changes which occurred during 1913.

As regards the number of persons affected, the particulars given refer to the number of persons ordinarily engaged in the various in-

\* It is obvious that under this definition certain classes of changes are excluded, such, for example, as (a) Changes in rates of pay due to promotions, progressive increments, or, on the other hand, to reduction in pay or grade of inefficient workers, and (b) Changes in average earnings in an occupation due to a change in the proportions which higher paid classes of workers bear to lower paid classes.

dustries. The results as to the amount of increase in wages are computed for a full week's work for all persons ordinarily engaged in the several industries and occupations affected, and in case of changes in existing minimum rates under awards or determinations of industrial tribunals, it has ordinarily been assumed (in the absence of any definite information to the contrary) that the whole of the employees in each occupation received the minimum rates of wages before and after the change.

It should be clearly understood that *the figures given in the third line of the following table* (amount of increase per week) *do not relate to the increase each week*, but only to the increase in a single week on the assumption that the full number of persons ordinarily engaged in the particular trade or occupation affected by the change is employed during that week. It is obvious, therefore, that the aggregate effect per annum cannot be obtained without making due allowance for unemployment and for occupations in which employment is seasonal or intermittent. It is also obvious that since unemployment and activity in all branches of industry may vary from year to year, and in many branches from season to season also, no accurate estimate of the actual effect of the changes in the total amount of wages received or paid *per annum* can be made, until the determining factors have been investigated. These factors are (a) the amount of unemployment and (b) the period of employment in seasonal industries. The necessary investigations in regard to these two matters are now being made.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes, Persons Affected, and Aggregate Amount of Increase per Week in each State during the Year 1913.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
No. of Changes	146	78	41	23	20	11	319
No. of Persons Affected	87,228	48,810	16,645	4,494	2,980	2,975	163,132
Total Amount of Increase per week	£21,056	9,814	3,702	1,252	420	631	36,875
Average Increase per Head per week	4s. 10d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 5d.	5s. 7d.	2s. 10d.	4s. 3d.	4s. 6d.

The whole of the 319 changes were increases, no decrease in rates of wages being recorded during the year. It will be seen that the total number of persons in all States of the Commonwealth who benefited by the increases was 163,132, and the total amount of such increase per week for all persons was £36,875, or an average weekly increase per head of 4s. 6d.

**2. Number and Magnitude of Changes in each State—October to December, 1913.**—It should be observed that, in addition to a considerable number of awards and determinations of industrial courts and wages boards and of industrial agreements filed under Commonwealth and State Acts, negotiations between employers and employees, without the assistance or intervention of any State or Commonwealth industrial authority, were also responsible for a number of changes in the rates of wages. Particulars regarding the result of

such negotiations have accordingly been collected and included in the tables. The following table gives particulars of changes in rates of wages for which information was collected:—

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes, Persons Affected, and Aggregate Amount of Increase per Week in each State, October to December, 1913.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'l'd.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	COMMONWEALTH.				Total, Year 1913.
							4th Q'ter.	3rd Q'ter.	2nd Q'ter.	1st Q'ter	
No. of Changes* ..	56	32	19	11	7	6	131	58	81	49	319
No. of Persons Affected ..	13,799	21,786	5,236	1,640	516	365	43,342	45,069	41,217	33,504	163,132
Total Amount of Increase per week	£4,161	4,242	1,336	433	163	153	10,488	9,242	8,751	8,394	36,875
Average Increase per Head per week	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	6 0	3 11	5 1	5 3	6 4	8 5	4 10	4 1	4 3	5 0	4 6

\* Industrial Awards and Agreements under the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act, if operative in more than one State, are counted as a separate change.

During the period October to December, 1913, particulars regarding the effect of many important changes in rates of wages were collected. A change in the rates of pay for postal electricians was brought about by an award of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and the rates of pay for postal electricians in all States of the Commonwealth were affected. Another important change brought about by an award of the same Court affected the wages of engine drivers and firemen employed in all the States except Western Australia. An important change in the rates of wages of railway employees occurred in Victoria. The Commissioners of Railways have been engaged for some time in preparing a scheme of increased payments, and the figures which have been included in the tabulation are preliminary, and may be subject to revision. In New South Wales and Victoria rates of wages for builders' labourers were fixed under State Industrial Acts, but appeals were lodged against the award and determination respectively. The employees lodged a plaint in the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, and an award has been made fixing rates of wages for builders' labourers in all States of the Commonwealth except Western Australia. It may be stated, however, that an appeal has also been lodged against the Federal award. Since the Federal award did not come into force until after the end of the year 1913, particulars regarding changes in rates of wages for builders' labourers are not included for any State in the returns for that year. The number of changes for which particulars were recorded during October to December, 1913, was 131, which is considerably in excess of those collected during any of the preceding quarters. The increase in the number of changes recorded during the quarter is to some extent due to the fact that all changes brought about as a result of strikes or lock-outs during the year have been included in the figures for the last quarter. In future, changes resulting from industrial disputes will be included in the quarter during which they occur.

3. Number and Magnitude of Changes in Industrial Groups, October to December, 1913.—The following table gives particulars of changes during the fourth quarter of the current year classified in industrial groups:—

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes, and Persons Affected, and Aggregate Amount of Increase per week, according to Industrial Groups, October to December, 1913.

Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected	Amount of Increase per week.	Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected	Amount of Increase per week.
I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc. . .	1	58	17	X. Other Land Transport, etc. . .	12	460	90
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	9	3,376	1,090	XI. Shipping, etc. . .	8	660	311
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	14	4,676	1,243	XII. Agricultural, etc. . .	12	420	216
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	7	2,865	542	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . .	4	960	345
V. Books, Printing, etc.	3	2,220	658	XIV. Miscellaneous . . .	30	8,359	2,578
VI. Other Manufacturing	17	3,415	864				
VII. Building . . .	7	582	174	4th Quarter, 1913 . . .	122*	43,342	10488
VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc.	9	2,634	641	3rd Quarter, 1913 . . .	56*	45,069	9,242
IX. Rail and Tramway Services . . .	9	12,657	1,719	2nd Quarter, 1913 . . .	75*	41,217	8,751
				1st Quarter, 1913 . . .	49	33,504	8,394
				Total for Year, 1913 . . .	302	163,132	36,875

\* In this table an Award or Industrial Agreement under the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act has been counted one change only, although such Agreement or Award may be operative in more than one State.

As regards industrial awards and agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act, it should be observed that such awards and agreements as extend to more than one State have been counted as a change in each State affected. This is necessary in order that the total number of changes in each individual State may be obtained. In the above classification of changes according to industries, however, each award and agreement has, of course, been counted only once. For example, the award affecting postal electricians is operative in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, and has accordingly been included in the table in paragraph 2 as a change in each of those States, but in the table shewing the number of changes according to Industrial Groups the award has been recorded as one change only, i.e., as a change affecting postal assistants (see Class II.). It will be seen, therefore, that the totals of the changes recorded as operating in each State are in some cases in excess of the totals given (for the quarters and the whole year) in the preceding table.

It will be observed that the largest number of changes occurred in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous) in which there were no fewer than 30 changes, affecting 8359 persons. The occupations affected by these 30 changes comprise, amongst others, engine drivers, storemen, bill posters, watchmen and caretakers, choristers, municipal employees, and labourers in New South Wales; engine drivers, office cleaners, bill posters, coalyard employees, choristers, and road repairers in Victoria; engine drivers, shop assistants, and journalists in Queensland; engine drivers, journalists, coal and coke yard employees, and labourers in South Australia; journalists and shop assistants in Western Australia; and engine drivers, journalists, and municipal employees in Tasmania.

The next group in order, according to the number of changes, is Group VI. (Other Manufacturing), in which 17 changes occurred, affecting 3415 persons. The employees who benefited were brick and pottery makers, wicker and cane workers, and cement workers in New South Wales; horsehair workers, polish makers, boiling-down establishment employees, and glass blowers' assistants in Victoria; gas stokers and shipwrights in Queensland; and candle and soapmakers in South Australia. In Group III. (Food, Drugs, etc.), 14 changes were recorded, affecting 4676 persons engaged in the following occupations:—Slaughtermen, bakers, bacon factory employees, and brewery employees in New South Wales; butter factory employees, aerated water carters, biscuit makers, ice makers, and cold storage hands in Victoria; and brewery employees in Western Australia. An important change occurred in Group IX. (Rail and Tramway Services). Employees to the number of 3376 benefited by 9 changes in the rates of wages in Group II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.). The occupations of such employees were:—Electrical workers, postal electricians, and wire workers in New South Wales; nail makers, engineers, and postal electricians in Victoria; and postal electricians in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania. Other changes for which particulars were collected affected employees engaged in the following occupations:—Pressers and cutters, painters, carpenters, colliery mechanics, railway employees, wharf storemen, and hairdressers in New South Wales; straw hat makers, waterproof clothing makers, milliners, boot shop employees, printers and hairdressers in Victoria; stonemasons, mine workers, motor drivers, carters and drivers, and hairdressers in Queensland; order-made clothing tailors and tailoresses in South Australia; and mining employees in Western Australia.

## SECTION VII.—ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS.

1. **General.**—The following table shews the total number of immigrants, the cost of whose passage was wholly or partly defrayed by the State Governments, up to the end of the year 1906, and the number arriving in each year since that date:—

**Commonwealth.—Number of Assisted, Selected, or Nominated Immigrants.**

Particulars.	To end of 1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Total.
No. of Immigrants ..	648,601	5,097	6,367	9,820	16,781	39,796	46,712	37,445	810,619

During the seven years 1907 to 1913, inclusive, the average number of assisted immigrants was 5786 per quarter, while the average number arriving in 1912 was 11,678 per quarter, compared with an average of 9361 per quarter for 1913. During the year 1913, 11,520 immigrants arrived during the first, 9344 during the second, 7016 during the third, and 9565 during the fourth quarter, making a total of 37,445 for the whole year, as against 46,712 for the preceding year, a reduction of nearly 20 per cent.

2. Number of Assisted Immigrants arriving in each State, October to December, 1913.—The following table shews the number of selected and nominated immigrants arriving in each State during the fourth quarter of the year 1913:—

Assisted Immigrants.—Number Arriving in each State, October to December, 1913.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Selected ..	369	2,176	34	124	1,072	..	3,775
Nominated ..	1,462	1,096	1,502	592	1,082	56	5,790
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,831</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>1,536</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9,565</b>

During the fourth quarter of 1913 the number of selected immigrants was 39 per cent. of the whole, as against 33 per cent. during the third, 32 per cent. during the second, and 45 per cent. during the first quarter.

The number of selected immigrants during the fourth quarter was 3775, as against 2361 for the third quarter, an increase of nearly 60 per cent., while the respective numbers of nominated immigrants were 5790 and 4665, an increase of 24 per cent. The total numbers of assisted immigrants for the corresponding periods were 9565 and 7016, an increase of 36 per cent., every State, except New South Wales, shewing an increase, which amounted in Victoria to 18 per cent., in Queensland to 36 per cent., in South Australia to 137 per cent., in Western Australia to 147 per cent., and in Tasmania to 115 per cent. In New South Wales there was a decrease of 6 per cent.

3. Number of Assisted Immigrants, Classified in Industrial Groups, October to December, 1913.—In the following table particulars are given of assisted immigrants of each sex, classified according to industrial groups, dependants being specified separately:—

Assisted Immigrants.—Classified according to Sex and Industrial Group, October to December, 1913.

Industrial Group.	Males.	Females.	Industrial Group.	Males.	Females.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	52	..	X. Other Land Transport	77	..
II. Engineering, Metals, etc.	254	8	XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.	..	15
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	88	5	XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, Rural, etc.	..	2
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	102	91	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	..	55
V. Books, Printing, Binding, etc.	50	1	XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous	..	1,075
VI. Other Manufacturing	56	20	Dependants		
VII. Building .. ..	135	..	Adults	155	1,488
VIII. Mining .. ..	67	..	Children under 12 years ..	1,462	1,857
IX. Rail and Tramway Transport .. ..	38	..	<b>TOTAL</b>	..	4,944
					4,621

As regards males, the greatest number, as usual, were in Group XII. (Agricultural, &c.). Of the 1613 agricultural immigrants, 169 arrived in New South Wales, 752 in Victoria, 84 in Queensland, 46 in South Australia, and 554 in Western Australia. Of the 1075 females in Group XIII. (Domestics, &c.), 186 arrived in New South Wales, 310 in Victoria, 136 in Queensland, 185 in South Australia, and 258 in Western Australia. The total number of dependants was 4962, or 52 per cent. of the whole number of assisted immigrants, the percentage being only one less than that for the preceding quarter.

#### SECTION VIII.—STATE FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

1. **General.**—In the following paragraphs particulars are given of the operations of the various State Labour Bureaux, the figures for each individual Bureau being comparable with those of the preceding quarter. The completion of the figures for the last quarter enables preliminary results to be given for the whole of the year 1913.

The following table shews the total number of applications for employment and from employers and of the number of positions filled during the year 1913, from information furnished quarterly to this Bureau by the Employment Bureaux of the various States:—

#### State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different States during the Year 1913.

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Posi-tions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	
New South Wales .. ..	157	9,693	9,850	43	7,669	7,712	8,049
Victoria .. ..	1,706	30,050	31,756	100	7,464	7,564	7,287
Queensland .. ..	..	8,980	8,980	..	7,513	7,513	5,932
South Australia .. ..	479	16,443	16,922	..	6,050	6,050	6,050
Western Australia .. ..	178	15,953	16,131	278	10,847	11,125	7,794
Tasmania .. ..	..	237	237	..	203	208	200
COMMONWEALTH ..	2,520	81,356	83,876	421	39,751	40,172	35,312

**2. Applications and Positions Filled in each State.**—The following table shews the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the fourth quarter of 1913. The total number of applications for employment, including those still on the register at the beginning of the quarter, was 20,696, as against 27,137 for the preceding quarter, a decrease of 24 per cent., the total number of applications from employers 12,001, as against 8933, an increase of 34 per cent., and the number of positions filled 9799, as against 8189, an increase of 20 per cent. Both the decrease in the number of applications for employment and the increase in the applications from employers and of positions filled were common to each State, except New South Wales, where there was a decrease in the number of positions filled.

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different States, October to December, 1913.**

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	Vacant at Beginning of Quarter.	Notified during Quarter.	Total.	
New South Wales . . . . .	..	1,381	1,381	..	1,983	1,983	1,953*
Victoria . . . . .	2,662	5,749	8,411	..	2,090	2,090	2,090
Queensland . . . . .	203	2,339	2,542	249	2,365	2,614	1,737
South Australia . . . . .	953	3,662	4,615	..	1,887	1,887	1,887
Western Australia . . . . .	173	3,527	3,700	225	3,166	3,391	2,096
Tasmania . . . . .	..	47	47	..	36	36	36
COMMONWEALTH . . . . .	3,991	16,705	20,696	474	11,527	12,001	9,799

\* Including persons who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution.

*NOTE.—Any deductions which can be drawn from the above figures as to the relative state of the labour market in the several States are subject to certain limitations, inasmuch as the scope and functions of the Bureaux are by no means identical. (See Remarks on pages 44 and 45 of Labour Bulletin No. 1.)*

The above figures shew that during the fourth quarter of 1913 there were 580 positions, as against 329 during the third quarter, open for every 1000 applications. The proportion of positions available to number of applications for employment was least in Victoria, with 248 positions for every 1000 applications, and greatest in New South Wales, where there were 1436 positions available for every 1000 applicants. In New South Wales and Queensland the number of positions open was greater than the number of applicants. Out of every 1000 applicants for vacancies, 473 (as against 302 for the preceding quarter) obtained work, and 816 (against 917) vacancies were filled out of every 1000 offered.

**3. Applications and Positions Filled in Various Industrial Groups.**—The following table furnishes particulars for the fourth quarter of

the current year of the operations of the Free Labour Bureaux, classified according to industrial groups:—

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different Industrial Occupations, October to December, 1913.**

Industrial Group.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.		Posi-tions filled.	
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	Vacant at Beginning of Quarter.	Notified during Quarter.		
I. Wood, Furniture, Saw-mill, Timber Workers, etc. . . . .	70	152	222	3	37	40	31
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.* . . . .	628	1,410	2,038	..	386	386	375
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	8	57	65	..	25	25	19
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots . . . . .	..	19	19	14	53	67	12
V. Books, Printing, Binding . . . . .	12	46	58	1	14	15	2
VI. Other Manufacturing . . . . .	8	19	27	..	1	1	1
VII. Building . . . . .	387	1,249	1,636	2	943	945	937
VIII. Mining . . . . .	2	174	176	194	217	411	183
IX. Rail and Tram Services† . . . . .	1,128	3,852	4,980	..	2,321	2,321	2,321
X. Other Land Transport . . . . .	6	106	112	..	48	48	47
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. . . . .	8	46	54	..	4	4	4
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, Rural, etc.‡ . . . . .	200	2,312	2,512	44	2,390	2,434	1,964
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . . . .	20	1,040	1,060	200	1,623	1,823	774
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous § . . . . .	1,514	6,223	7,737	16	3,465	3,481	3,129
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>16,705</b>	<b>20,696</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>11,527</b>	<b>12,001</b>	<b>9,799  </b>

\* Including railway and tramway workshops. † Excluding railway and tramway workshops, but including construction and maintenance of permanent way and works. ‡ Including horticultural, viticultural and gardening. § Excluding railway and tramway employees and labourers employed on railway and tramway construction and maintenance. || Including persons in New South Wales who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution.

It may be seen that the number of positions vacant was greater than the number of applications for employment in Groups IV. (Clothing, etc.), VIII. (Mining), and XIII. (Domestic, etc.). In the other groups there were more applicants for work than positions vacant. Of the five groups, in which the number of applicants for work was over 1000, the over-supply of labour was most marked in Group II. (Engineering, etc.), with only 189 vacancies for every 1000 applications for work, followed by Group XIV. (Miscellaneous and General), with 450 vacancies, Group IX. (Rail and Tram Services), with 466 vacancies, Group VIII. (Building), with 577 vacancies, and Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.), with 969 vacancies per 1000 applicants. The most im-

portant group in which the number of vacancies exceeds the number of applicants is Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.), in which there were only 581 applicants for every 1000 vacancies.

**4. Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females.**—Of the total number of registrations for employment during the period under review, 19,856 or 95.9 per cent. were by males, and 840 or 4.1 per cent. by females, as against 96.7 per cent. and 3.3 per cent. for the preceding quarter (July to September). Of the female applicants, 823 or 98 per cent. were registered in Group XIII (Domestic, etc.), and of these 725 were registered in Western Australia and 98 in Queensland. Of the applications from employers, 10,381 or 86.5 per cent. were for male, and 1,620 or 13.5 per cent. for female employees, as against 88.8 and 11.2 per cent. respectively for the preceding quarter. No fewer than 1,610 of the applications for female labour were in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.), and of that number 1,435 were in Western Australia and 175 in Queensland.

During the quarter under review 46 per cent. of the male and 73 per cent. of the female applicants obtained positions, as against 29 per cent. and 54 per cent. respectively during the July to September quarter.

The following table gives particulars, for male and female workers separately, of the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled:—

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females, October to December, 1913.**

Particulars.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Posi-tions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	
Males .. .. ..	3,991	15,865	19,856	314	10,067	10,381	9,182
Females .. .. ..	..	840	840	160	1,460	1,620	617
<b>TOTAL .. .. ..</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>16,705</b>	<b>20,696</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>11,527</b>	<b>12,001</b>	<b>9,799</b>

## SECTION IX.—INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

**1. Scope of Investigation.**—The tabulations of the industrial accidents which occurred during the fourth quarter of 1913 are not comparable in all respects with that given for previous quarters, inasmuch as the returns from Western Australia were not available at the time of going to press, and are therefore omitted. In the other five States, the various districts from which returns were received are the same as those from which similar information was furnished for the three preceding quarters of the year. The total number of fatal and non-fatal accidents recorded during the year (exclusive of those which occurred in Western Australia during the fourth quarter) is shewn in the following table:—

## Industrial Accidents.—Total Number Reported in each State during the Year 1913.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.*	Tas.	C'wlth.†
No of Fatal Accidents ..	82	24	33	5	28	9	181
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days ..	3,427	303	286	117	567	79	4,784

\* Omitting Fourth Quarter. † Omitting Western Australia, Fourth Quarter.

**2. Number of Accidents Reported in Each State during the Fourth Quarter, 1913.**—The following table shews the number of fatal accidents and of accidents causing incapacitation for work for over 14 days in each State, except Western Australia, under the Acts referred to in Labour Bulletin No. 1 (see page 48). Aggregate results for the third quarter of year (omitting those for Western Australia) are also shewn in the table:—

## Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in each State during Fourth Quarter, 1913.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wealth.†	
							4th. Quar-ter.	3rd. Quar-ter.
No. of Fatal Accidents ..	21	4	6	3	*	1	35	42
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days ..	910	103	93	25	*	20	1,151	1,192

\* Not available. † Omitting Western Australia.

It will be seen that the number of fatal accidents (omitting those which occurred in Western Australia) was smaller during the fourth quarter of 1913 than during the third, the respective figures being 35 and 42. The number of fatal accidents shewed increases of 2 in Queensland and of 2 in South Australia, and decreases of 5 in Victoria and of 6 in Tasmania, while the number in New South Wales remained stationary at 21. The number of non-fatal accidents (again omitting those occurring in Western Australia), was smaller than those for the preceding quarter, the respective figures being 1151 and 1192, a decrease of 3.4 per cent. There was an increase of 29 non-fatal accidents in Victoria, and there were decreases of 53 in New South Wales, and of 16 in Queensland.

**3. Number of Accidents Reported in each Industrial Group during Fourth Quarter, 1913.**—The following table gives similar particulars for the fourth quarter of 1913 regarding accidents in various industrial groups, excluding those which occurred in Western Australia:—

**Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in various Industrial Groups during Fourth Quarter, 1913 (Western Australia excluded).**

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incap'citated for over 14 days.	Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incap'citated for over 14 days.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	2	70	VII. Building and Scaf-folding	..	10
II. Engineering, etc. . .	1	67	..	1	10
III. Food, Drink, etc. . .	2	32	VIII. Mining .. .	22	880
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	1	15	IX. Lifts .. .	4	5
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	25	X. Miscellaneous .. .	..	..
VI. Other Manufactures	2	47	TOTAL .. .	35	1,151

The largest number of accidents occurred, as in the preceding quarters, in the mining industry, and included 63 per cent. of the fatal and 76 per cent. of the non-fatal accidents. Of the 22 fatal accidents in that industry, 16 occurred in New South Wales, 3 in Victoria, 2 in Queensland, 1 in South Australia, and none in Tasmania. The total number of fatal mining accidents during the third quarter, omitting those which occurred in Western Australia, was 30. The number of non-fatal accidents in the mining industry, excluding those which occurred in Western Australia, was 880, which shews a decrease of 7 per cent., compared with 947 in the preceding quarter. Of these accidents 764 occurred in New South Wales, 42 in Victoria, and 55 in Queensland.

In the other industries the number of fatal accidents, omitting those which occurred in Western Australia, was 13, and of non-fatal accidents, 271.

SECTION X.—DISTRIBUTION OF WAGES IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, 1912.

1. **General.**—In connection with the collection of manufacturing statistics for the year 1912, particulars were given in the previous issue of this Bulletin (No. 3) of the number of male employees in different industrial groups classified according to wage classes, as well as the average wage in each class. In the table hereunder particulars are given as to the number of female employees classified in a similar manner. It will be seen that the total number of female employees included in these returns is 74,369, or 89.4 per cent. of the total number of females (83,180), exclusive of working proprietors, managers, overseers, clerks, &c., engaged in manufacturing industries.

2. **Distribution of Wages of Female Employees.**—The last part of the table on page 284 shews for each State and the whole Commonwealth the combined results for all industrial groups. It may be seen that the average wage payable to females was 19s. 8d. per week. The average for male employees was £2 9s. 3d. per week. The average weekly wages for females is highest in Western Australia (£1 2s. 5d.), followed in the order named by New South Wales (£1 0s. 6d.), Victoria (19s. 11d.), South Australia (17s. 8d.), Queensland (16s. 11d.), and Tasmania (16s. 5d.). Of the total number (74,369) of females included in the returns, 64,130 are included in the first five wages groups and were receiving an average of under 30s. per week. The largest number (17,378) was in the fourth group, that is, the group including persons receiving from 20s. but under 25s. per week. The smallest number (13) was in the group including persons receiving from 75s. but under 80s.

Separate tables are given for Group VI. (Food and Drink, &c.), Group VII. (Clothing and Textiles, Fabrics, &c.), and Group VIII. (Books, Printing, &c.). Nearly 70,000 of the females included in the returns were employed in these three groups, and only 4888 in the remaining 16 groups, which have therefore been combined in one table.\* It will be seen that the average weekly wages was 20s. 7d. in Group VI. (Food and Drink, &c.), 20s. in the 16 groups combined, 19s. 9d. in Group VII. (Clothing and Textile Fabrics, &c.), and 17s. 6d. in Group VIII. (Books, Paper, Printing, &c.).

It should be observed that the wages groups designated in the first columns indicate that each group includes persons earning as much as the first amount specified, but less than the second amount. Thus 10s.-15s. includes persons earning 10s. but under 15s. per week, 15s.-20s. includes those earning 15s. but less than 20s., and so on.

\* As to sex distribution in manufacturing industries, see Official Yearbook of the Commonwealth, No. 6, 1913, pp. 533 to 537.

## Manufacturing Industries.—Distribution of Wages of Female Employees, 1912.

Rate of Wages.*	N.S.W.		Vic.		Q'land.		S.A.		W.A.		Tas.		Total.	
	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.
Under 10s.	35	9 0	75	8 10	74	7 11	25	8 9	7	7 2	10	6 8	226	8 5
10s. to 15s.	641	12 8	684	12 6	101	11 7	98	11 11	59	11 11	28	11 9	1611	12 5
15s. , 20s.	597	16 9	961	17 9	184	16 5	123	16 6	39	16 8	40	16 1	1944	17 2
20s. , 25s.	859	20 6	616	21 4	50	21 3	205	22 3	29	21 9	100	20 4	1859	21 0
25s. , 30s.	348	25 11	285	26 5	26	26 4	18	25 2	6	25 11	..	..	683	26 2
30s. , 35s.	337	33 7	153	30 5	7	30 5	5	30 0	7	30 7	3	31 0	512	32 6
35s. , 40s.	46	37 1	279	38 7	23	35 10	..	..	2	37 3	1	35 0	351	38 2
40s. , 45s.	9	40 11	14	40 4	3	40 0	..	..	1	40 0	1	40 0	28	40 5
45s. , 50s.	25	45 4	9	47 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	46 0
50s. , 55s.	1	50 7	112	53 4	..	..	..	..	1	50 0	..	..	114	53 3
55s. , 60s.	1	55 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	55 0
60s. , 65s.	2	61 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	61 6
65s. , 70s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
70s. , 75s.	2	72 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	72 6
75s. , 80s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80s. and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All Persons	2903	20 8	3188	21 9	468	16 5	474	18 1	151	17 0	183	17 9	7367	20 7

## VI.—FOOD AND DRINK, ETC.

Under 10s.	2078	s. d.												
10s. to 15s.	2792	6 4	4018	6 4	1340	6 7	933	6 4	331	6 0	282	5 9	8982	6 4
15s. , 20s.	2874	11 8	3762	11 9	1047	11 6	528	11 9	241	11 4	207	11 4	8577	11 8
20s. , 25s.	3291	16 4	3352	16 7	1057	16 6	615	16 9	289	16 5	175	16 5	8362	16 6
25s. , 30s.	2983	21 2	5212	25 11	1148	21 5	881	21 4	280	21 4	185	21 6	13075	21 8
30s. , 35s.	1886	30 9	1908	30 7	282	30 9	276	30 10	184	30 9	42	30 8	4578	30 8
35s. , 40s.	722	35 8	472	35 10	101	35 9	126	35 5	148	35 6	44	36 1	1613	35 8
40s. , 45s.	383	40 6	227	40 6	69	40 3	49	40 5	131	40 5	18	40 1	877	40 6
45s. , 50s.	157	45 5	89	45 6	26	45 4	16	45 5	58	45 3	3	45 8	349	45 5
50s. , 55s.	112	50 6	97	50 4	23	51 4	7	50 7	35	50 4	12	50 2	286	50 6
55s. , 60s.	23	55 7	14	55 3	5	55 6	..	..	12	55 0	1	59 6	55	55 5
60s. , 65s.	72	60 3	57	60 3	11	60 5	2	60 0	15	60 1	3	61 0	160	60 3
65s. , 70s.	13	65 3	8	65 0	2	67 6	2	65 0	3	65 0	..	..	28	65 3
70s. , 75s.	17	70 4	19	70 2	2	70 0	5	70 0	7	70 0	..	..	50	70 2
75s. , 80s.	6	75 4	2	77 7	..	..	..	..	5	75 0	..	..	13	75 7
80s. and over	48	94 0	37	89 3	8	93 9	4	95 0	15	105 4	1	100 0	113	94 0
All Persons	17457	20 11	26564	19 8	5710	17 1	3980	18 2	2003	23 4	1048	16 7	56762	19 9

## VII.—CLOTHING AND TEXTILE FABRICS, ETC.

Under 10s.	39	s. d.												
10s. to 15s.	611	11 10	392	11 2	130	10 10	165	11 9	64	11 9	12	12 8	1374	11 7
15s. , 20s.	507	16 7	440	16 8	124	16 9	138	16 9	42	16 1	9	17 3	1260	16 8
20s. , 25s.	471	21 4	781	21 7	82	20 11	95	21 4	35	20 7	17	20 7	1481	21 5
25s. , 30s.	188	25 7	228	25 10	33	25 11	16	26 8	17	25 2	2	26 3	484	25 9
30s. , 35s.	104	30 3	47	30 10	15	30 4	9	31 7	12	30 2	..	..	187	30 6
35s. , 40s.	10	35 9	13	36 5	3	35 4	1	35 0	2	36 3	..	..	29	36 0
40s. , 45s.	10	40 9	14	41 6	1	40 0	1	42 0	4	40 0	..	..	30	41 0
45s. , 50s.	5	45 6	..	..	1	45 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	45 5
50s. , 55s.	3	51 4	3	50 0	..	..	..	..	1	50 0	..	..	7	50 7
55s. , 60s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
60s. , 65s.	4	61 4	1	60 0	1	60 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	60 11
65s. , 70s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
70s. , 75s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
75s. , 80s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80s. and over	1	100 0	..	..	1	88 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	94 0
All Persons	1953	18 2	2094	18 4	526	15 0	518	15 0	180	18 0	81	12 2	5352	17 6

\* For constitution of wages groups see remarks at foot of page 282.

## Manufacturing Industries, Distribution of Wages, 1912—(continued).

Rate of Wages.*	N.S.W.		Vic.		Q'land.		S.A.		W.A.		Tas.		Total.	
	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.	No.	Aver- age Wage.

## I. to V., IX. to XIX. (combined).

(16 Groups.)

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>													
Under 10s.	76	7	10	58	7	6	15	7	2	41	7	9	5	7	8
10s. to 15s.	410	12	2	384	12	4	59	11	4	61	11	2	16	12	0
15s. , 20s.	744	16	7	429	16	3	45	16	5	25	15	10	23	16	1
20s. , 25s.	412	21	1	462	21	1	39	22	1	19	21	6	27	20	10
25s. , 30s.	228	25	9	411	25	6	24	26	7	7	26	0	11	25	11
30s. , 35s.	97	30	9	531	30	1	6	30	10	7	30	0	5	30	6
35s. , 40s.	44	35	3	28	35	6	3	35	0	4	35	7	2	36	3
40s. , 45s.	27	40	4	8	40	7	3	40	0	..	..	5	40	10	1
45s. , 50s.	2	46	6	7	45	9	1	45	0	..	..	..	..	..	81
50s. , 55s.	2	50	0	6	50	0	..	..	..	..	..	1	50	0	..
55s. , 60s.	..	..	7	55	0	..	..	..	1	55	0	..	..	..	8
60s. , 65s.	1	60	0	1	60	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
65s. , 70s.	1	65	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
70s. , 75s.	1	70	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
75s. , 80s.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
80s. and over	..	1	80	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
All Persons	2046	18	10	2332	21	9	195	17	9	165	14	6	95	20	3
	55	13	9	4888	20	0									

## ALL CLASSES.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>													
Under 10s.	2228	6	6	4326	6	5	1564	6	9	1092	6	6	346	6	1
10s. to 15s.	4454	11	11	5222	11	10	1337	11	6	852	11	9	380	11	6
15s. , 20s.	4722	16	5	5182	16	9	1410	16	7	901	16	9	393	16	5
20s. , 25s.	5033	21	2	9149	21	10	1319	21	4	1200	21	6	371	21	3
25s. , 30s.	3747	26	1	6136	25	11	672	25	11	577	26	0	283	25	10
30s. , 35s.	2424	31	1	2639	30	6	310	30	9	297	30	10	208	30	9
35s. , 40s.	822	35	9	792	36	9	130	35	9	131	35	5	154	35	6
40s. , 45s.	429	40	6	263	40	7	76	40	3	50	40	5	141	40	5
45s. , 50s.	189	45	5	105	45	6	28	45	4	16	45	5	58	45	3
50s. , 55s.	118	50	6	218	51	10	23	51	4	7	50	7	38	50	3
55s. , 60s.	24	55	7	21	55	2	5	55	6	1	55	0	12	55	0
60s. , 65s.	79	60	4	59	60	3	12	60	5	2	60	0	15	60	1
65s. , 70s.	14	65	3	8	65	0	2	67	6	2	65	0	3	65	0
70s. , 75s.	20	70	6	19	70	2	2	70	0	5	70	0	7	70	0
75s. , 80s.	6	75	4	2	77	7	..	..	..	5	75	0	..	..	13
80s. and over	50	93	10	37	89	3	9	93	1	4	95	0	15	105	4
All Persons	24359	20	6	34178	19	11	6899	16	11	5137	17	8	2429	22	5
	1367	16	5	74369	19	8									

\* For constitution of wages groups see remarks at foot of page 282.

## SECTION XI.—REPORTS FROM INDUSTRIAL CENTRES.\*

## (A)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. **Sydney.**—The improvement reported in the conditions of the labour market during the preceding quarter was fully maintained during the quarter under review, and as will be observed from the tabulated returns as to unemployment among members of trade unions, employment was more regular than for any previous quarter of the year 1913. The collapse of the smallpox scare and the consequent cancellation of quarantine regulations led to a return of normal conditions in those industries and callings which had been affected. The shipping strike in New Zealand adversely affected employment on the wharves, but the trouble, however, was confined to boats sailing to and from New Zealand. In the building trades conditions are stated to have been good in all branches. Stonemasons were not in great demand during October, but in November and December it is stated that practically all available men were able to secure employment. The demand for carpenters, house-painters, plumbers, bricklayers, and plasterers has been good all through the quarter under review, and during the latter part some difficulty was experienced by employers in securing sufficient labour to meet requirements. The improvement which took place in the building trades affected the demand for unskilled labour, and it is reported that during November and December no difficulty was experienced by suitable men in securing employment. In the iron and engineering trades conditions as to employment are also stated to have been good all through the quarter, and the prospects for the future to be bright. The supply of boilermakers and tinsmiths has barely been equal to the demand, while fitters and turners, pattern makers, smith's assistants, and moulders have been in good demand. It is stated, however, that the conditions in the electrical trades are far from satisfactory. Owing to the completion of the City Council extensions a number of men have been discharged, and the outlook is somewhat gloomy. It is stated that an inquiry for fifty men required for blast furnace work at Lithgow met with poor response, and that the whole of the number has not been obtained, due to a disinclination on the part of many men to leave the city and accept country employment. It is also reported that delay is being caused in the construction of war ships at Cockatoo Island owing to the scarcity of riveters. The naval authorities state that, although higher rates of wages had been offered, it was found impossible to secure a sufficient number of men. The conditions in industries connected with the manufacture and preparation of food are stated to have been good, though there has been no shortage in the available supply of labour. The clothing trade has shewn an improvement, and is stated to be good. In the bootmaking industry conditions have fluctuated. An improvement was noticeable in October, but was not maintained during November. During December, however, it is stated that an improvement was evident, and that the prospects are bright. The conditions in the printing and allied trades are stated to be unsatisfactory. Employment in the State printing works was not so good as during the latter part of the quarter under review, and there are stated to be a number of men unemployed. Brickmakers are stated to be in strong demand. Furniture trades report conditions good for all sections except french-polishers. Tanners and curriers, jewellers, sawmillers, ship-painters, farriers, slaughtermen and butchers are all stated to have been in demand, with few unemployed. All other sections have shared the general improvement in trade. This improvement is reflected in the report issued by the Department of Labour and Industry. The number of applications for employment received fell from 1015 for the month of September to 490 for the month of November. The official report for December states that there are over 7000 men employed on the various Government and municipal public works.

\* Compiled from revised reports of agents and correspondents supplemented by other sources of information. See also Note at foot of page 239.

In the country districts of the State a similar improvement in conditions affecting employment is shewn, and it is reported that the outlook is bright. The rains which fell during the month of October considerably brightened local prospects. The percentage of good reports received by the State Department of Labour and Industry has increased, pastoral, agricultural, dairying and mining industries alike sharing in the general improvement.

Particulars of industrial disputes which took place during the quarter will be found in Section V. of this Bulletin. In connection with the strike which occurred at Messrs. Fairleigh's tannery during October, proceedings were instituted against the strikers under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912, and a penalty of £3 3s. was imposed on each of the defendants. Under the provisions of the same Act twenty-one slaughtermen were proceeded against on a charge of having taken part in the strike at the Sydney Meat Preserving Company's works at Auburn. Each of the men was fined £3, with £1 costs.

The inquiry into the question of the cost of living instituted by Mr. Justice Heydon (of which mention was made in the previous issue (No. 3) of this Bulletin) closed on the 20th November. The report of the Commissioner has not yet been issued.

Conferences of the following federated trade unions have been held in Sydney during the quarter:—The Federated Bakers, Waterside Workers, Progressive Carpenters, and Trolley and Draymen. Matters of importance to the respective unions were discussed. In the case of the Trolley and Draymen's Union a log of claims was drawn up which seeks to establish 10s. per day as the minimum wage for a "one horse" driver.

During the month of October a conference of representatives from the Australian Meat Employees' Union, Cold Storage Employees' Union, and Meat Packers' Union was held. A complete scheme of amalgamation was decided upon as the future policy of these bodies. The question of amalgamation between the Ferry and Tugboat Employees, Masters and Engineers, and the Firemen and Deckhands Unions has been under consideration. No definite steps have, however, yet been decided upon.

In October the Eight-hour Bill, which had passed the Legislative Assembly, was rejected by the Legislative Council.

The report of the Royal Commission on Arbitration was completed, and issued at the end of October. The report contains recommendations which, if given effect to by Parliament, will mean drastic alterations in the present Act.

**2. Newcastle.**—The condition of the labour market has continued to improve during the quarter under review, and all branches of industry are stated to have been active, with the exception of wharf labourers. The shipping strike in New Zealand is given as the reason for unemployment among those engaged on and about the wharves, the members of the Waterside Workers' Union refusing to handle cargo from any boat sailing from or to New Zealand. The building trades are reported to have been exceptionally busy, all classes of labour required being in good demand. Work has been commenced on the erection of a new hospital to cost £60,000, and this, along with extensive alterations which are being made to business premises, will probably ensure a continuance of the existing conditions for some considerable time. Manufacturing industries of all descriptions are stated to be busy, and all available labour to be employed. In the coal-mining industry conditions are reported to be good, though the prospects are stated to be clouded by the trouble which is arising in regard to the abolition of the afternoon shift. The Coal-miners' Wages Board is to deal with this question as soon as it has completed other matters it now has in hand. The miners, however, have at several of their meetings expressed dissatisfaction with the progress made by the board. It is stated that some mines had to cease operations for several days, owing to the inability of the Railway Department to provide sufficient locomotives to move the coal waiting to be sent away.

**3. Broken Hill.**—It is stated that the unsatisfactory condition of the labour market reported for the third quarter of 1913 has continued with little improvement during the quarter under review. During October the building

trade is stated to have been worse than for a number of years previous. In December, however, some improvement took place in repair and extension work to existing buildings. Work in the mining industry has continued smoothly during the quarter, though it is stated there are still a number of men unemployed. The supply of all classes of unskilled labour is stated to be in excess of the demand. The ice-making, electric light, and gas plants have been kept continuously working during the quarter. Good progress has been made with the Umberumberka water supply scheme, the laying of the main pipe is almost completed, and it is expected that water from this source will be available shortly. In November much time was lost and inconvenience caused to all classes of the community by the failure of the existing water supply owing to the main pipe bursting. After having been repaired it again burst, and though it was further repaired, the supply is much restricted, as the condition of the pipe is such that it will not stand the normal pressure. It is stated that on this account many of the mines and other industries are unable to employ the full number of employees desired.

#### (B)—VICTORIA.

1. **Melbourne.**—The improvement in general labour conditions reported as having taken place in September has continued during the quarter under review, and it is stated that at the end of December unemployment was less than at any time during the year. Practically all industries have shared in the general improvement, the exceptions being the agricultural implement, leather, and quarrying trades. In the agricultural implement industry the available orders are stated to have been completed in November, and a number of men dismissed. The failure of the crops in the Argentine Republic is said to have led to decreased orders for agricultural machinery from that country. General slackness of trade in the case of quarry workers, and importations of leather in the case of leather workers and saddlery trades, are stated to have been the reasons for the prevalence of unemployment. The building trades are reported to have been very active. Many new buildings are being erected, and the prospects for a continuation of the prevailing activity are said to be good. The substitution of structural steel work for brick and stone, however, has resulted in some men connected with the latter class of work being unable to secure employment. All the manufacturing industries are said to be busy, while the available supply of general unskilled labour has been absorbed by the rural industries for shearing and harvesting. The Railway Department has in hand constructional work which will, it is stated, employ an additional 2000 men. The export season for meat and dairy produce is now in full swing, and employment in the slaughtering and cold storage industries is good.

The ninth annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia was held in October. Important matters connected with manufacturing industries were considered.

The Interstate Commission has commenced its investigation into the effect and operation of the Tariff Acts at present in force. The members of the Commission have visited a large number of factories throughout the Commonwealth in order to ascertain the efficiency with which, and the conditions under which, work was being carried on in some of the main industries affected by the tariff. The Commission invited applications for investigation into the operations of the tariff, and, in all, some 270 applications, covering 119 subjects, have been received. The first application considered was that for an increased duty on boots and shoes. It is officially stated that investigations are to be made regarding the manufacture of the following commodities:—Boots and shoes, leather, matches, corks, brushware, pianos, paper, paper bags, artificial flowers, woven smallware, brass, mica, ink, printing roller composition, gas meters, glassware, wearing apparel, furs, bark, artificial manures, leatherware, sporting sundries, japanned metalware, pyritic ores and sulphur, soap, hats, pipes, paints, whiting, linseed oil, and nails.

The strike of moulders at the Sunshine Works was still unsettled at the end of the quarter. The Industrial Disputes Committee of the Trades Hall Council has endeavoured to bring about a settlement, but without success. Particulars of this and other disputes which have occurred during the quarter are given in Section V. of this Bulletin.

A conference of the boot trade employees was held to consider the questions of securing increased wages and of assisting the employers to secure a higher tariff on imported goods. The members of the Bakers' Union are taking a ballot as to whether they are prepared to take action for the abolition of night work in this industry. A conference of the Federated Saddlers' Union was held, and decided to endeavour to bring about amalgamation with the Union of Leatherworkers. The question of amalgamation between the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Australian Society of Engineers is still under consideration by the two bodies concerned.

A statement regarding the operations of the State Labour Bureau during the past year has been issued. During the year 1913, 7146 men and lads were engaged through the bureau, as against 7345 for the year 1912. Of the former number 1783 (consisting of 1515 farm hands and general labourers and 268 tradesmen) were supplied to private employers. Of the balance, 754 tradesmen, 3798 labourers, and 593 lads were engaged for employment for various public works and departments, the majority having been supplied to the construction and maintenance branches of the Railway Department.

**2. Ballarat.**—The general condition of the labour market has improved during the quarter under review, harvesting operations having absorbed a large number of men. Gold mining is stated to have been unsatisfactory throughout the quarter, and to have been worse in December than for many years past. Several companies are said to be on the verge of shutting down, but on the Sebastopol line of reef the outlook is stated to be improving, and additional men are being engaged. The building trades have been fairly active, mainly owing to the building of the municipal slaughterhouse.

The dispute at Beaufort was terminated on the 24th January last, after a period of eighteen weeks.

**3. Bendigo.**—The condition of the labour market for the quarter under review has been good, all industries sharing in the general improvement. The building trades have been busy, but several of the buildings in course of erection are nearing completion, and the prospects for the future are not bright. The weather has been favourable for all classes of out-door work, and little time has been lost through unfavourable weather conditions. Seasonable rains during October assured a satisfactory harvest, and the demand for men in the rural industries has been good. The iron trades have continued working at their full capacity, and there has been little unemployment. The employees in the brick and tile making industry have been working overtime. The local boot factory closed down in October, owing, it is stated, to lack of capital.

In the mining industry employment of miners and others is stated to have been good. Many of the mines closed down for two or three weeks towards the end of the quarter in order to overhaul machinery and plant. The prospects for the future are said to be encouraging, as increased yields are reported from many of the existing mines. In other mines which have been closed for a considerable time operations are being resumed. During the quarter the district was free from industrial disputes.

**4. Geelong.**—The improvement in the condition of the labour market which took place during the third quarter continued during the fourth quarter of 1913. All industries are stated to have been busy, and scarcely any labour unemployed. The commencement of the wool and wheat season absorbed all the available general unskilled labour. Harvesting operations were in full swing, and the demand for labour is stated to have been good. All branches

of manufacturing are stated to be satisfactory, and working up to the full capacity. Waterside workers were fully employed, considerable quantities of wheat, wool, and chaff having been shipped.

The dispute which occurred in connection with the sewerage works is not yet settled. No other disputes have been reported during the quarter, and relations between employer and employee are stated to have been good.

#### (C)—QUEENSLAND.

1. **Brisbane.**—It is reported that the conditions of the labour market for the fourth quarter of 1913 shew a marked improvement on that of the two preceding quarters. While all trades have shared in the general improvement, the building, engineering, and clothing trades have specially benefited. In the building trade it is stated that the demand for all classes of skilled labour has been in excess of the supply. With the commencement of the summer season it is reported that the clothing trade has shewn increased activity, and that there is every prospect of a busy season. The improved condition of the iron and engineering trades is stated to be due principally to an increase in the quantity of work given out by Government departments. The sugar crushing season has found employment for large numbers of enginedrivers and firemen and general unskilled labour. The approaching close of the sugar season, and the completion of several of the larger railway constructional works is said to have led to some unemployment towards the end of the period under review among the class of labour required for these industries. Contrary to the general experience, a number of workers in the leather and saddlery trades have not been able to secure constant employment. Conditions in the printing trade are stated to be decidedly better than for some time past.

The Federal Council meeting of the Plumbers' and Gasfitters' Union was held during October. Important matters connected with the affairs of the union were discussed. An endeavour is being made to secure the affiliation of the Operative Plumbers' Society of New South Wales. The Council also decided to circularise the Building Trade Unions of Australia, to ascertain if they would be willing to send representatives to a conference for the purpose of establishing a building trades' union on industrial lines, with the ultimate object of amalgamation with the Australian Workers' Union.

2 **Townsville.**—The condition of the labour market, which was reported to be good at the commencement of the fourth quarter, is said to have been only moderate towards its close. Several of the large meat works have completed the season's activity, and consequently large numbers of men were thrown on the labour market. It is stated that many of these men have made their way to New South Wales and Victoria, but that a large number are still left in the district and are unemployed. The building trade is stated to be very brisk. The erection of new police barracks, and several large business premises, in addition to numerous dwelling houses, is providing work for all available labour. Gold mining is stated to have been quiet and copper mining active during the quarter. Some time was, however, lost by prospectors during November owing to the dry weather experienced. Rain fell during the latter part of the month, and prospectors were able to travel and open up fresh country. Railway construction work on the Mt. Mulligan, Townsville to Ingham, Cloncurry to Mt. Cuthbert, and Wee MacGregor lines found employment for a large number of men. Work on the two latter lines is nearing completion, and the number of men employed is stated to have been considerably reduced towards the end of the quarter. A reduction also took place in the number of men engaged on the Townsville-Ingham line. During the early part of the quarter several industrial disputes occurred. Particulars of these will be found in Section V. hereof.

#### (D)—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

1. **Adelaide.**—It is stated that the condition of the labour market during the fourth quarter of 1913 continued to be unsatisfactory. Some little improvement is, however, reported to have taken place by the employment of a number of unskilled men in harvesting and fruit-picking. The dryness of the

season and the partial failure of many of the crops in the agricultural districts has resulted in fewer men being required than is usual at this period of the year. Many of the farmers state that their wheat crops are not worth cutting, and that they are turning the cattle in to feed. In some of the districts, however, the crops are fair. Conditions in the mining industry are stated to have shewn no improvement, and the available supply of labour to be in excess of the demand. The lack of unemployment prevalent in the building trades during the preceding quarter is stated to have continued all through the last quarter of the year. There is said to be an almost entire absence of any new contracts for buildings of any description. The Government is, however, having plans prepared for a new asylum for the destitute at Magill. The construction of various public works authorised by Parliament is still held in abeyance by the State Government. A slight improvement is stated to have occurred in some of the manufacturing industries on account of the Christmas trade, notably in the clothing, boot and shoe, and confectionery businesses. A number of men employed in the furniture trades have been out of work, owing to the fact that three of the factories were destroyed by fire. Steps are being taken to build new workshops, and it is anticipated that all the men will shortly be in employment. The agricultural implement and saddlery trades are stated to be quiet, with a considerable number unemployed.

During November an important Interstate Congress of Trade and Labour Councils, convened by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia, was held at Adelaide. Delegates were present from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania. Through a misunderstanding the State of Queensland was not represented. The most important work carried out was the adoption of a scheme for the establishment of a Federal Council of Labour, to consist of two representatives from each accredited State Labour Council in the Commonwealth. The objects of the Council are (a) to promote and protect the interests of organised labour throughout the Commonwealth, and (b) to encourage the adoption of uniformity of action in all matters affecting the welfare of the trade union movement. Motions supporting the following matters were carried:—(a) Closer organisation (the merging of allied trades in any industry into one organisation); (b) the adoption of the principle of a forty-four hours' week; (c) the abolition of all unnecessary Sunday labour; (d) the adoption of a statutory minimum wage for women and girl workers in each State; (e) the insertion of a clause in all Government contracts providing for payment of union rates of wages, and for the observance of union conditions; (f) the approval of unions assisting in the supply of data for the purpose of compiling official industrial statistics; and (g) uniform factory laws throughout the Commonwealth. Other important matters discussed by the Congress were the legislation prohibiting workers the use of the strike weapon, the attitude of unionist members of the Citizen Forces of the Commonwealth Army in times of industrial disputes, the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the Workers' Educational Association, and the representation of trade unions on the Interstate Commission. The scheme for the inauguration of a Federal Council is to be submitted to the State Trade and Labour Councils.

#### (E)—WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1. **Perth.**—The condition of the labour market during the fourth quarter of 1913 is stated to have been better than during the preceding quarter. The erection of cottages under the provisions of the Workers' Homes Act is providing employment for all classes of labour connected with the building trade, though it is stated that a considerable amount of unemployment has been caused through the inability of the local brickmakers to meet the demand for bricks. Plumbers also complain that a shortage of material for house connection work on the sewerage scheme has led to much lost time. The opening of the State Implement Works at Rocky Bay is reported to have absorbed practically all the unemployed labour of the class required. Some of the flour mills have closed down pending the arrival of the new season's wheat, resulting in some unemployment among men engaged in this industry.

The employment of a large number of men on the new telephone service is stated to have absorbed all the available unemployed labour in the electrical trades. The annual meeting of the Metropolitan Council of the Western Aus-

tralian division of the Australian Labour Federation was held early in January, 1914. It was stated that trade during the year 1913 had only been fair. Matters dealing with the management of the affiliated trade unions were discussed. Attention was drawn to the fact that no industrial dispute involving the stoppage of work to any serious extent had occurred during the year.

2. **Kalgoorlie.**—A slight improvement in the condition of the labour market is stated to have occurred during the fourth quarter of 1913, as compared with the preceding quarter. It is reported, however, that there was no lack of available labour to supply all requirements. Work on the Transcontinental Railway is reported to be progressing favourably, though it is alleged that if more rolling stock was available employment could be provided for a greater number of men. Conditions in the mining industry are stated to be normal. The Mt. Morgan Gold Mining Company has resumed operations after a period of inactivity. During the quarter two new unions have been formed—Horse-drivers' and Carters', with fifty members, and the Barmaids' and Barmen's, with 140 members. The secretary of the Eastern Goldfield's District Council of the Australian Labour Federation has issued a half-yearly report. This shows that there are fifty organisations, with 6616 members, affiliated with the Council.

(F)—TASMANIA.

1. **Hobart.**—The state of the labour market during the quarter under review is stated to have been considerably better than for the preceding quarter. The timber workers in and around the city, as well as in the country districts, have been fully employed all through the quarter. In the clothing and boot trades conditions are stated to have steadily improved, though towards the end of December a number of those engaged in the latter trade were unable to secure employment. It is reported that employment in the furnishing trades has been good, and that more workpeople could have been employed had they been available. The electrical workers report that there is more work offering than can be coped with, and in the building trades all classes of labour have been fully employed. The jam season commenced in November, and all available labour for that industry is stated to be fully employed. The trouble in the New Zealand shipping trade is stated to have been the cause of an increase in unemployment among the labourers engaged on the Hobart wharf. During the quarter an interstate conference of Master Coachbuilders was held in Hobart. An effort is being made to organise the tinsmiths and plumbers, with a view to their inclusion in the new Builders' Workers' Union. It is stated that the Electrical Workers' Union will probably join the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, as the latter body has obtained favourable conditions for electrical workers under the wages board determination.

2. **Launceston.**—The improvement in the condition of the labour market reported for the third quarter of 1913 has continued during the quarter under review, and it is stated that there are practically no unemployed. In the building trades there is plenty of work for all classes of labour, and a large number of buildings are in course of erection. The demand for general labourers and bush workers has been good all through the quarter. All branches of the manufacturing industry are stated to be active. The tourist season opened well, and it is expected that it will prove to be a record, consequently those employed in hotels, boarding houses, and cafes are fully employed. The mining industry is stated to have taken a forward move. More work is being done by contract and tribute parties, who are averaging well above ruling rates of wages. There has been increased activity in the old Lefroy field, where good payable lodes have been met at the deep leads, and it is anticipated that the now almost deserted town of Lefroy will soon be a thriving place of business again. Tin mining on the north-east coast is stated to be shewing signs of improvement.

## SECTION XII.—REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND BUREAUX IN AUSTRALIA.

*(In this Section particulars are furnished of Reports received each quarter from Departments and Bureaux in the Commonwealth specially affecting labour and industrial matters).*

### A.—COMMONWEALTH.

1. Commonwealth Arbitration Reports, Vol. V., 1911. (Melbourne, Government Printer.)

2. Report by the Commonwealth Representative on the Conference of the International Association on Unemployment, 1913. (Melbourne, Government Printer.) The principal subjects discussed at this Conference were "Unemployment Bureaux" and "Public Works Policy and Unemployment." The matter of Internal Migration and Cheap Railway Tickets was also brought forward. There is at present no Australian section of the Association, and it is pointed out in the report that the institution of such a section would spread the discussion of the many important questions dealt with and would give to other countries the guidance and warning of Australian experience.\* It would, at the same time, furnish a driving force to secure legislation in the States or Commonwealth in the directions pointed out by the Conference if thought desirable.

### B.—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. Royal Commission of Inquiry as to Food Supplies and Prices. Sectional Reports on the Supply and Distribution of (a) Milk, (b) Bread, and (c) Fruit and Vegetables. (Sydney, Government Printer.)

2. Interim Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Industrial Arbitration. (Sydney, Government Printer.) This report deals with the following matters:—(1) The cancellation or the registration of the New South Wales Amalgamated Railway and Tramway Service Association, and its results; (2) the conditions of labour in and about railway goods sheds; and (3) the question of alleged victimisation of certain railway strikers.

3. Final Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Industrial Arbitration. (Sydney, Government Printer.) The report contains a large amount of valuable information and is divided into the following chapters:—I. The nature of industrial arbitration tribunals in New South Wales; II. The mode of mapping out the field of industrial arbitration; III. The right to initiate arbitral proceedings; IV. Proceedings before the arbitral tribunals. (a) The prohibition of the taking of evidence suggested in Clause 4 of the Commission; (b) The functions of conferences or conciliation committees; (c) The right of appeal; (d) The right to apply for variation of an award; (e) The carrying-out of the orders of the Court, including the policing of awards; V. The extension of the field of industrial matters, including the relation between arbitral decisions and the Early Closing Act; VI. The amendment of provisions relating to strikes and lockouts.

\* All reports, etc., issued by the Unemployment Association are received and reviewed by the Labour and Industrial Branch of the Commonwealth Bureaux of Census and Statistics. (See Labour Bulletin No. 1, p. 74, and No. 2, pp. 150-51.)

4. **New South Wales Industrial Gazette**, November, December, 1913. (Sydney, Government Printer.) In addition to the usual records of proceedings, the November and December numbers contain two sections of the final report of the Royal Commission on Industrial Arbitration.

C.—VICTORIA.

1. **Twenty-seventh Annual Report on Trade Unions**. (Melbourne, Government Printer.) In 1912 returns were furnished by 13 unions registered under the Trade Unions Act 1890. Seven unions were registered during the year. The Government Statist points out that the advantages of registration have been availed of to a very limited extent.

D.—WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1. **Twelfth Annual Report of Proceedings under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912 and the Trade Unions Act 1892 by the Registrar of Friendly Societies**. (Perth, Government Printer.) The report furnishes particulars of registered industrial unions and trade unions at the end of the year 1912. The membership of the unions shewed a substantial increase compared with a year ago, the total being 34,552. Trades and Labour Councils are not recognised under the Act of 1912. During the year there were 19 references to the Court of Arbitration; sixteen awards were delivered and three cases dismissed. The number of industrial agreements made and filed during the financial year 1912-13 was 32, making a total of 143 since the commencement of the 1900 Act. Special attention is directed in the Report to the matter of the enforcement of awards.

SECTION XIII.—IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

*(In this Section brief reviews are furnished of the more important Reports specially affecting labour received each quarter from other countries.)*

A.—UNITED KINGDOM.

1. **Board of Trade Labour Gazette**, October, November, 1913. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.) The November number contains special articles on National Sickness Insurance in Holland, Compulsory Old Age and Infirmity Insurance in Sweden, and Workmen's Compensation in Portugal.

2. **Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour in the United Kingdom in 1912**. Cd. 7080. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.) The number of changes in rates of wages in 1912 and the number of workpeople affected thereby were far in excess of the highest previously recorded. The changes were, with three insignificant exceptions, all increases. The number of workpeople affected by changes in rates of wages during 1912 was 1,818,240. Of these, 1,806,444 received net increases amounting to £139,410 per week, and 46 sustained decreases amounting to £6 per week; the remaining 11,750 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level at the end as at the beginning of the year. The coal-mining industry accounted for 55 per cent. of the total amount of increase during the year. Agricultural labourers and railway servants, who are not included in the figures given above, also received advances in wages. The changes in hours of labour during 1912 affected 105,317 workpeople, of whom 1013 had their aggregate working time increased, and 104,304 had it reduced, the net effect of all the changes being a reduction of 210,556 hours in the weekly working time of the workpeople affected.

3. **Sixteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom.** Cd. 7131. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.) The percentage of unemployed in 1912, based on returns furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members, was 3.2, as against 3.0 in 1911. The Wages index-number for workpeople in the Building, Coal Mining, Engineering, Textile, and Agricultural Industries was 102.46 in 1912, as against 99.83 in 1911 (1900 being taken as base = 100). The index-number of Wholesale Prices for 47 articles in 1912 was 114.9, and of Retail Prices for 23 articles in London 114.5, as against 109.4 in each case in 1911 (1900 being taken as base = 100). The number of deaths by industrial accidents in the same year was 5254.

4. **Report on Strikes and Lockouts and on Conciliation and Arbitration Boards in the United Kingdom in 1912.** Cd. 7089. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.) The total number of disputes recorded as having begun in 1912 was 857, involving 1,463,281 workpeople at the establishments where the disputes occurred. Of these, 1,233,016 were directly involved. The aggregate duration of the disputes was 38,275,799 working days. The most important strike was that of the coalminers, which affected about one million workers, and the aggregate duration of which was estimated at 30,800,000 working days. The majority of the disputes had wages questions for their principal cause; in 1912, no less than 539 disputes, involving 83 per cent. of the total number of workpeople directly involved in all disputes beginning during the year, arose on such questions. The disputes in which the workpeople were wholly or partially unsuccessful accounted for only 14 per cent. and 11 per cent. respectively. The number of disputes settled by the mediation of third parties in 1912 was the highest recorded, 76 disputes, directly involving 223,606 workpeople, being settled by conciliation, and 23 disputes, directly involving 18,908 workpeople, by arbitration. The number of Voluntary Permanent Conciliation and Arbitration Boards and Standing Joint Committees known to have taken action in 1912 was 164, and the number of cases considered by them was 3083. Of the total number of disputes actually settled by the instrumentality of the Boards, only 16 involved a stoppage of work.

5. **Statistics of Compensation and of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act 1906 and the Employers' Liability Act 1880 during the year 1912.** Cd. 7088. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.) This volume contains:—(a) Statistics as to compensation paid during 1912 in seven great industries, viz., mines, quarries, railways, factories, harbours, constructional works, and shipping; and (b) General statistics for 1912 in regard to the administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act 1906 and the Employers' Liability Act 1880. During the year 1912, compensation to the amount of £3,174,101 was paid in the seven industries mentioned in respect of 3599 cases of death and 424,406 cases of disablement, the total number of people employed being 7,411,005. The charge per person employed was 8s. 7d. Compensation was also paid in 55 fatal cases, caused by industrial diseases, to the amount of £9987, and in 6712 cases of disablement from the same cause, to the amount of £103,798.

6. **Report of an Inquiry into Agricultural Credit and Agricultural Co-operation in Germany.** Cd. 6626. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.)

7. **The World's Labour Laws.** August, 1913. (London, The Pioneer Press.) Contains a summary of the laws in Europe for the prevention of lead-poisoning in potteries.

8. **The Land Question. Deer Forests and Sporting Lands (Scotland).** (Published by the Department of Social Economics of the London Municipal Society.)

#### B.—CANADA.

1. **The Labour Gazette, September, October, November, 1913.** (Ottawa, Government Printer.)

## C.—NEW ZEALAND.

1. **Awards, Agreements and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act**, Vol. XIV., Parts VI. and VII., Awards Nos. 2829 to 2879. (Wellington, Government Printer.)
2. **Journal of the Department of Labour**. Nos. 248 and 249. (Wellington, Government Printer.)

## D.—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

1. **Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics. Bulletins**. (Washington, Government Printing Office.)
  - (a) **Retail Prices and Cost of Living Series**. No. 7, Sugar Prices, from Refiner to Consumer; No. 8, Retail Prices, 1890 to April, 1913; No. 10, Retail Prices, 1890 to June, 1913; No. 11, Retail Prices, 1890 to August, 1913.
  - (b) **Wages and Hours of Labour Series**. No. 1, Wages and Hours of Labour in the Cotton, Woollen, and Silk Industries, 1890 to 1912; No. 2, Wages and Hours of Labour in the Lumber, Millwork, and Furniture Industries, 1890 to 1912; No. 3, Union Scale of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1907 to 1912.
  - (c) **Conciliation and Arbitration Series**. No. 1, Conciliation and Arbitration in the Building Trade of Greater New York; No. 2, Report of the Industrial Council of the British Board of Trade on its Inquiry into Industrial Agreements.
  - (d) **Miscellaneous Series**. No. 2, Prohibition of Night-work of Young Persons; No. 3, Ten-hour Maximum Working Day for Women and Young Persons; No. 4, Employers' Welfare Work.
2. **Hawaii. Second Report of the Board of Immigration, Labour and Statistics** from 1st July, 1912, to 30th June, 1913. (Honolulu, Mercantile Print.)
3. **Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics**. (a) **Labour Bibliography**, 1912; (b) **Fifth Annual Report on Labour Organisations** for the year 1912; (c) **Thirteenth Annual Report on Strikes and Lockouts** for the year 1912; (d) **Labour Legislation** in 1913. (Boston, Wright and Potter Co.)
4. **Michigan. Thirtieth Annual Report of the Department of Labour**, 1913. (Lansing, State Printers.)
5. **Minnesota. Workmen's Compensation Law**, 1913.
6. **New York Bulletin of the Department of Labour**, September, 1913. (Albany, J. B. Lyon Co.)

## E.—FRANCE.

1. **Bulletin of the Minister of Labour**, September, October, November, 1913. (Paris, Berger-Levrault.)
2. **Journal of the Statistical Society of Paris**, October, November, 1913. (Paris, Berger-Levrault.)
3. **Bulletin of General Statistics**, October, 1913. (Paris, F. Alcan.)
4. **Bulletin of Social Insurance**, No. 6, 1913. (Paris, published by the International Permanent Committee on Social Insurance.)
5. **Statistics of Strikes and Recourse to Conciliation in 1912**. (Paris, National Printing Office.)

## F.—GERMANY.

1. **Journal of the Labour Department**, August to November, 1913. (Berlin, C. Heymann.)
2. **Insurance Journal**, November, 1913. (Berlin, E. S. Mittler and Son.)
3. **Monthly Journal of Workmen's Insurance**, September, October, November, 1913. (Berlin, Behrend and Co.)
4. **The Central Statistical News of Germany**, Nos. 8 and 9, 1913. (Leipzig, B. G. Teubner.)
5. **Social Culture**, Nos. 10 and 11, 1913. (M. Gladbach, Volksvereinsverlag.)
6. **International News Letter**, Vol. I., Nos. 19 and 20. (Berlin, published by the International Secretariat of National Trade Union Centres.)

## G.—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

1. **Social Review (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department)**, August, September, October, November, 1913. (Vienna, A. Hölder.)

## H.—ITALY.

1. **Monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, September, 1913. (Rome.)
2. **Semi-monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, Nos. 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 1913. (Rome.)

## I.—BELGIUM.

1. **Journal of the Labour Department**, Nos. 17 to 21, 1913. (Brussels, E. Daem.)

## J.—HOLLAND.

1. **Monthly Journal of the Central Bureau of Statistics**, August, September, October, 1913. (La Hague, Gebr. Belinfante.)

## K.—FINLAND.

1. **Journal of Labour Statistics**, No. 5, 1913. (Helsingfors, Government Printer.)

## L.—SWEDEN.

1. **Social Review (Journal of the Swedish Labour Department)**, Nos. 8 to 10, 1913. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt and Sons.)
2. **Economic Journal**, Nos. 7 to 11, 1913. (Upsala and Stockholm, Almorist and Wiksell.)
3. **Report on the Labour Exchanges in the City of Stockholm in 1911**. (Stockholm, K. L. Beckmann.)
4. **Report on the Work of the Arbitrators in Cases of Industrial Disputes in 1912**. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt and Sons.)

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.  
(Labour and Industrial Branch.)

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